

## More rain causes new flood worries along the Mississippi

By JIM SALTER  
Associated Press

**ST. LOUIS (AP)** — A wall of rocks and sandbags on Monday protected scenic Clarksville, Missouri, from the surging Mississippi River as spring flooding swamped fields, threatened homes and temporarily shut down a bridge connecting Missouri and Illinois.

Heavy rain over much of the Midwest on Saturday caused another spike in water levels along the river and its tributaries, especially in Iowa, Missouri and Illinois.

So far, Mississippi River flood damage is far less severe than March flooding along the Missouri River in Nebraska, southwest Iowa and northwest Missouri, where hundreds of homes were damaged. Still, several Mississippi River communities were battling to stay dry.

Clarksville, a 440-resident community 90 miles (145 kilometers) north of St. Louis is known for its antique shops and artist galleries operating out of 19th century brick storefronts. The town sits square along



In this March 18, 2019 file photo released by the U.S. Air Force, environmental restoration employees deploy a containment boom from a boat on Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska, as a precautionary measure for possible fuel leaks in the flooded area.

the Mississippi, unprotected by a levee largely because town leadership doesn't want to obstruct the view of the river, and has been through many floods.

As they've done so many times before, Clarksville residents and other volunteers built a makeshift wall around downtown, though this time, they started with

a 6-foot layer of rocks as the base, with sandbags on top of the rocks. The river was expected to crest Monday about 9 feet (2.7 meters) above flood

stage, making it the seventh-worst recorded flood in Clarksville.

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# Trump team overruled 25 clearance denials, official says

By **CHAD DAY**  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — A career official in the White House security office says dozens of people in President Donald Trump's administration were granted security clearances despite "disqualifying issues" in their backgrounds, including concerns about foreign influence, drug use and criminal conduct.

Tricia Newbold, an 18-year government employee who oversaw the issuance of clearances for some senior White House aides, says she compiled a list of at least 25 officials who were initially denied security clearances last year but then had those denials overruled by senior administration officials.

The allegations were detailed in a letter and memo released Monday by Rep. Elijah Cummings of Maryland, chairman of the House Oversight and Reform Committee.

The documents, which are based on Newbold's March 23 private committee interview, don't identify the officials on the list but



In this March 24, 2019 photo, The White House is seen behind security barriers in Washington.

say they include "two current senior White House officials, as well as contractors and individuals" in different parts of the Executive Office of the President.

"According to Ms. Newbold, these individuals had a wide range of serious disqualifying issues involving foreign influence, conflicts of interest, concerning personal conduct, financial problems, drug use and criminal conduct," the memo says.

The release of the documents sets the stage for another fight between the White House and the Democratic-controlled House, and immediately drew criticism from House Republicans who called the allegations overblown and "cherry-picked."

Cummings' panel has been investigating security clearances issued to senior officials including Trump person-in-law Jared Kushner, former national security adviser Michael Flynn and former White House aide Rob Porter.

That probe has picked up steam after The New York Times reported that Trump ordered officials to grant Kushner a clearance over the objections of national security officials, and after Newbold spoke out to NBC News and other news outlets about her concerns. On Monday, Cummings

said he will move this week to authorize his first subpoena in the probe.

The subpoena will be for the deposition of Carl Kline, who served as the White House personnel security director and supervised Newbold.

He has since left the White House for the Defense Department.

The White House did not immediately respond to a request for comment Monday.

Rep. Jim Jordan, the committee's ranking Republican, said in a statement that Cummings' probe is a "partisan attack" and an "excuse to go fishing" through personnel files.

He also said that one person on Newbold's list is a GSA custodian.

Also, in a response memo circulated to Republican members, Jordan's staff cast Newbold as a disgruntled employee who had only limited knowledge of the reasons security clearances were granted.

The Republican document also suggests Newbold's concerns were "overblown," saying that four or five of the clearance denials for "very serious rea-

sons" were a small fraction of about 5,000 employees who work in the Executive Office of the President.

According to Democrat Cummings' memo, though, Newbold considered the decisions to be part of a "systematic" problem within her office where the decisions of security clearance reviewers were "continuously" overridden.

Newbold said she raised her concerns up the chain of command in the White House to no avail.

Instead, she said, the White House retaliated, suspending her in January for 14 days without pay for not following a new policy requiring that documents be scanned as separate PDF files rather than one single PDF file.

Newbold said that when she returned to work in February, she was cut out of the security clearance process. The office also announced a plan to "restructure" that would remove her from a supervisory role, she said.

In response to Newbold's interview, Cummings is asking the White House to turn over the list she created as well as documents related to the handling of security clearances for several senior officials including Flynn, Kushner and Porter.

Flynn maintained his clearance even after the White House learned that he lied to the FBI about his conversations with Russia's ambassador and that he was under investigation by the Justice Department for his previous foreign work.

Kushner failed to initially disclose numerous foreign meetings on security clearance forms, and, according to the Times, career officials recommended against granting him a clearance before Trump personally overruled them. Porter had high-level access with an interim security clearance even though the FBI repeatedly told the White House of past allegations of domestic violence lodged against him by two ex-wives.

Porter resigned after the allegations becoming public. □

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## More rain causes new flood worries along the Mississippi

Continued from Front

A downtown park on the other side of the makeshift levee was under water, and several homes beyond the rock and sandbag protection also were threatened.

In nearby Louisiana, Missouri, the flood briefly forced closure of the Champ Clark Bridge that connects Missouri and Illinois because water was lapping near the Illinois entrance to the bridge Sunday night.

The closure created a hardship for commuters because the next nearest river crossing is at Hannibal, Missouri, 27 miles (43 kilometers) to the north.

But by Monday morning the river had crested, the bridge deck was clear, and the Louisiana bridge was reopened, Illinois Department of Transportation spokeswoman Jessie Decker said.

Precautionary sandbags were added to the top of a levee at Foley, a tiny town about 50 miles (80 kilometers) north of St. Louis. Lincoln County Emergency Management Director Jim Sharp said the river was expected to get close to the top of the levee and volunteers have been walking the levee to make sure it's holding.

"We haven't had anything over the top," Sharp said.

"We haven't had a breach. We haven't had a failure anywhere."

The river was causing other problems, too.

In St. Louis, the route for the upcoming Go St. Louis marathon and half-marathon had to be changed.

The two runs combined are expected to draw about 15,000 participants on Sunday, and the original finish



The James River overflows its banks on Saturday, March 30, 2019 in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Associated Press

line was along the Mississippi near the Gateway Arch. That road is underwater, so the run will end elsewhere in downtown.

The severe flooding from last month in northwest Missouri may have claimed a life.

The Platte County Sheriff's Department is investigating after a 61-year-old man's body was found Friday near an overturned boat in a flooded area not far from Bean Lake.

The victim's name has not been released.

Authorities in several flooded areas where water was receding warned that danger still exists.

In Sioux Falls, South Dakota, an intoxicated man was rescued from the Big Sioux River late Friday after police heard him yelling for help.

Rescue crews used a ladder to get down a 12-foot retaining wall and a rope to pull the man to safety.

He was treated for exposure. □

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## Disaster aid stalls in Senate amid fight over Puerto Rico

By **ANDREW TAYLOR**  
**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Senate Democrats on Monday blocked a Republican disaster aid bill, saying it doesn't do enough to help hurricane-torn Puerto Rico. The move tossed long-sought relief for victims of hurricanes, floods and western wildfires into limbo. The vote escalated a fight between Democrats and President Donald Trump, who opposes further rebuilding aid for the U.S. island territory, which was slammed by back-to-back hurricanes in 2017.

The 44-49 vote fell short of a majority, much less the 60 votes required to overcome a Democratic filibuster. It sent GOP leaders back to the drawing board but seemed unlikely to kill disaster aid efforts outright, since there is much political support to send aid to Southern farmers, wildfire-ravaged California towns and Midwestern flood victims.

Trump allies such as Sens. David Perdue, R-Ga., and Rick Scott, R-Fla., are among the strongest backers of the legislation, which has already faced significant delays.

"We will get this done eventually," Perdue said, promising relief to struggling farmers in his state. The path forward is not clear, but a leading option is for the Senate to pass a much more narrowly drawn bill simply to get the issue into a House-Senate conference committee. House Democrats insist the talks must produce a final measure with help for Puerto Rico.

The amount of money in dispute is relatively small, but Trump feels antipathy toward Puerto Rico's government and Senate

Republicans backed him up — for now — in denying Democratic demands

cans when there's a disaster, wherever the disaster strikes. We do not abandon

ricane-damaged military bases in Florida and North Carolina would receive re-

where near the urgency these Americans deserve. It is the only bill on the table with any provision for the Midwest flooding," McConnell said.

"And it's the only bill on the table that could earn a presidential signature in time to deliver urgent relief on the nutrition assistance in Puerto Rico."

The political momentum for the measure — strongly backed by Trump's allies in Georgia, Florida and North Carolina, among other states — has only been heightened by massive flooding in Midwestern states such as Nebraska and Iowa, whose nominating caucuses are the first test for Democrats hoping to challenge Trump next year. The GOP measure would make Midwestern states eligible for more aid, and by blocking the bill, Democratic presidential contenders in the Senate are likely to face criticism.

Trump has yet to veto a spending bill despite some tough talk, and he has signed off on \$600 million to ease food stamp cuts in Puerto Rico.

"I have taken better care of Puerto Rico than any man ever. We have \$91 billion going to Puerto Rico. We have \$29 billion to Texas and \$12 billion to Florida for the hurricane," Trump said last week. "They have to spend the money wisely. They don't know how to spend the money and they're not spending it wisely."

Trump's \$91 billion estimate, said a White House spokesman, includes about \$50 billion in expected future disaster disbursements, along with \$41 million that's already been approved. Actual aid to Puerto Rico has flowed slowly from federal coffers. □



**In this Sept. 8, 2018, file photo, Ramon Alicea Burgos walks past his palm tree, with its top broken off one year ago by Hurricane Maria one outside his partially rebuilt home in the mountain town of Barranquitas, Puerto Rico.**

**Associated Press**

for more aid to rebuild its badly damaged water systems and to ease the requirement that Puerto Rico financially match a portion of the federal government's aid contribution.

Democrats say Trump has been slow to release already-appropriated funding for Puerto Rico and has exhibited little urgency in helping the island. Trump poor-mouthed the island's government at a meeting with Senate Republicans last week and suggested Puerto Rico has gotten too much disaster help compared with states such as Texas, using inflated numbers to make his case.

"Just as we leave no soldier behind on the battlefield, we help our fellow Ameri-

them. Period," said Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y.

Trump weighed in on Twitter Monday to preemptively attack Democrats for blocking the measure.

"Democrats should stop fighting Sen. David Perdue's disaster relief bill. They are blocking funding and relief for our great farmers and rural America!" Trump tweeted.

The \$13.5 billion Senate measure mostly mirrors a \$14.2 billion measure passed by the House in January, combining aid to Southern farmers, California communities devastated by last summer's wildfire, and hurricane-hit states such as Florida, Georgia and North Carolina. Hur-

building funds.

Democrats want to add almost \$700 million more to unlock further disaster aid for Puerto Rico and several states, including help to rebuild badly damaged water systems. Democrats are also trying to force the administration to release billions of dollars in rebuilding funds that have already been approved.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said the measure is the fastest way to get aid to the hurricane-slammed South and the badly flooded Midwest, along with nutrition aid to Puerto Rico, where food stamp benefits have already been cut.

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## U.S. safety agency opens probes into Hyundai and Kia fires

By TOM KRISHER

AP Auto Writer

**DETROIT (AP)** — The U.S. government's highway safety agency has decided to open two new investigations into fires involving Hyundai and Kia vehicles after getting complaints of more than 3,100 fires and 103 injuries.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said Monday that it granted a petition filed last June seeking the investigations by the nonprofit Center for Auto Safety, a consumer advocacy group.

The investigations, one for Hyundai and the other for Kia, cover non-crash fires in almost 3 million vehicles from the affiliated Korean automakers. The probes cover the 2011 through 2014 Hyundai Sonata and Santa Fe, the 2011 through 2014 Kia Optima and Sorento, and the 2010 through 2015 Kia Soul. The complaints came from consumers and from data provided by both automakers.

One death was reported involving a Kia vehicle, according to the documents. NHTSA had previously said it would incorporate the non-crash fires into a 2017 investigation that examined recalls of Hyundai and Kia vehicles for engine failures. It opened the new probes "based on the agency's analysis of information received from multiple manufacturers, consumer complaints and other sources." Jason Levine, executive director of the center, said in a statement that it is long past time for the agency

to investigate why so many Kia and Hyundai vehicles have caught fire when not involved in crashes.

"While it may be six months post-due, we are gratified to see NHTSA's Office of Defect Investigations open formal investigations based on our petition," Levine said. The center contended that there are more non-crash fires in the Hyundai and Kia cars and SUVs than in similar vehicles made by other automakers.

Hyundai and Kia said in statements that they're cooperating with the investigations and have been open and transparent with NHTSA, providing comprehensive data. Messages were left seeking comment from NHTSA.

In documents detailing the investigations, NHTSA reported that it had received complaints of engine compartment fires, as well as fires involving other components including tail light housings, wiring harnesses, and light bulbs. Agency investigators sent information requests to both automakers in September and October of last year, according to the documents.

The investigation will look into how often fires happen, how many vehicles are affected and the safety-related consequences, the documents said.

Engine failure and fire problems with Hyundais and Kias have affected more than 6 million vehicles since 2015, according to NHTSA documents. So far, Hyundai and Kia have recalled about 2.4 million vehicles to fix



This Oct. 4, 2012, file photo shows a Hyundai Sonata at a Hyundai car dealership in Des Plaines, Ill. Associated Press

problems that can cause fires and engine failures.

In addition, the automakers are doing a "product improvement campaign" covering another 3.7 million vehicles to install software that will alert drivers of possible engine failures and send the cars into a reduced-speed "limp" mode if problems are detected. Just last Friday, NHTSA announced a recall of about 20,000 Veloster cars with 1.6-liter engines in the U.S. and Canada because fuel can prematurely ignite in the cylinders around the pistons. That can cause excessive pressure and damage the engine, causing vehicles to stall and in some cases catch fire.

But that's a different problem from what has caused the rest of the recalls since 2015.

In February, Kia announced that it would recall the Soul small SUV with the same-

size engine due to engine failure and fire problems, but for reasons unrelated to the Veloster's issues.

Most of the engine failure recalls are for problems with Hyundai's 2.4-liter and 2-liter "Theta II" four-cylinder engines. Debris left from manufacturing can clog a port and cut off the flow of oil, causing the connecting rod bearings to fail. That can damage the engine block and cause oil to leak and catch fire. The automakers also have announced recalls to inspect a fuel pipe problem that can cause leaks and fires. Levine has said fire complaints to NHTSA have come from across the country, including a death in Ohio involving a Kia Soul in April of 2017. Kia says the driver in that incident damaged the transmission by pushing on the brake and gas pedal at the same time, causing transmission

fluid to leak and catch fire. It's not clear whether this death is the one cited in NHTSA's figures.

Kia's statement said it will keep working with NHTSA "in achieving our mutual goal of protecting U.S. vehicle passengers."

Hyundai's statement said it is monitoring the performance of its engines on the roads and it has made numerous improvements to its engine manufacturing. The company also said it has made "substantial efforts" to address engine issues in some of its vehicles.

During a two-year period starting in November of 2016, Hyundai did fire-related inspections of 428 vehicles out of the roughly 8.7 million vehicles it has on the road today. The statement says that for every 1 million Hyundai vehicles on the road, 49 had a non-crash fire during those two years. □



# States renew push for taxes on sugary drinks

By **SUSAN HAIGH**

**Associated Press**

**HARTFORD, Conn. (AP)** —

Nearly three decades after a U.S. state last imposed a special tax on sugary drinks, Connecticut's governor is pushing for one to help close a budget deficit — and bracing for a fight. Taxes on soda and other sugar-loaded drinks have taken effect in recent years in several cities around the country, but lobbying from the beverage industry and its allies has been credited with helping to block statewide proposals that emerge annually in state legislatures around the country.

"The industry lobbying is going to be pretty ferocious. I don't know if the legislature can stand up to it," said Connecticut Gov. Ned Lamont, a Democrat, who included 1.5-cent-per-ounce tax on sugar-sweetened drinks in his budget proposal.

Connecticut is among several states likely to see debate renewed this year over taxes that advocates endorse as a way to reduce consumption of liquid calories blamed for contributing to health problems such as obesity and diabetes. Opponents argue the taxes



In this Feb. 20, 2019 file photo, state Rep. Anne Dauphinais R-Killingly, takes a sip from a big gulp soda as Connecticut Democrat Gov. Ned Lamont delivers his budget address at the State Capitol in Hartford, Conn.

hurt stores and supermarkets as well as beverage producers, while inflicting financial harm on consumers.

"The challenge for these taxes, whether it's a state or a city, but typically a state, is they're very unpopular with working families and small, local businesses," said William Dermody Jr., vice president of media and public affairs for the American Beverage

Association. "These people are vocal to their representatives that they dislike this tax."

Statewide taxes on sugary drinks were proposed this year in states including New York, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont and California, but the last state to impose any such tax was Arkansas, which adopted an excise tax on soft drinks in 1992. Three other states have had sugary drink taxes

on their books for decades — Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. Dozens of other states apply sales tax on at least some soda purchases.

Revenue from the taxes is used for purposes ranging from a medical school in West Virginia to litter and recycling programs in Virginia and Tennessee. Revenue from Connecticut's proposed tax would go to the state's main spending account but Lamont said he hopes the tax also will ultimately reduce health care costs.

Last week, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Heart Association called for education campaigns and raising prices through taxes to reduce consumption of sugary drinks by young people.

Advocates on either side have cited studies with different conclusions on the effectiveness of taxes for public health.

A 2017 report from Healthy Food America said sugary drink sales in Mexico dropped 9 percent two years after that country imposed a tax, while they dropped 10 percent one year after Berkeley, California, adopted such a tax. But the American Bever-

age Association says other research, including a 2017 study of Philadelphia's soda tax commissioned by the industry and conducted by Oxford Economics, challenges that argument. It notes consumers shifted grocery buying trips outside the city to avoid the tax, or purchased untaxed substitute items, such as drink mixes.

In Connecticut, which is facing a two-year budget deficit of about \$3.7 billion, Lamont's office estimated the tax on sugary drinks would generate \$163 million in new annual revenue. One Connecticut soda company that dates back to 1904, Avery's Beverages in New Britain, has printed its opposition to Lamont's proposal on its labels. The company has produced a limited edition "Don't Tax Me Ned!" soda brand, which has been selling fast. General Manager Rob Metz said many of his customers buy cases of soda, choosing from more than 50 flavors ranging from sarsaparilla to kiwi. He says this tax will increase the retail price of a case from \$16 to more than \$21, and he's fearful it will also apply to his wholesale customers, increasing the pallet price by \$250.

There's no special flavor for the "Don't Tax Me Ned" sodas.

"If we did create a special flavor it would be so bitter you couldn't drink it," he said with a laugh.

Cities have had more success passing taxes. Municipal taxes on sugary drinks were implemented in four California cities, including San Francisco and Berkeley, as well as Philadelphia, Seattle, Boulder, and the Navajo Nation, according to Healthy Food America. The most recent are San Francisco and Seattle, which took effect in January 2018.

A penny-per-ounce tax in Cook County, Illinois, was repealed in 2017 following lawsuits, a warning that millions in federal food stamp benefits could be lost and complaints by store owners about plummeting sales. □

## Major U.S. airlines hit by delays after glitch at vendor

**NEW YORK (AP)** — A technical glitch at an outside aviation company led to delays at major U.S. airlines. The issue was resolved quickly, but it led to travel disruptions Monday. Delays that began appearing first in Chicago, New York, Miami and Boston spread to Dallas, Atlanta, Detroit and Washington, D.C.

The Federal Aviation Administration said several airlines had problems with a program called Aero-data, which is used to plan weight and balance for flights. The FAA said the issue was resolved.

By midday, 3,400 U.S. flights had been delayed, according to tracking service FlightAware, but it was un-



In this Jan. 25, 2019, file photo a Southwest Airlines jet moves on the runway as a person eats at a terminal restaurant at LaGuardia Airport in New York.

**Associated Press**

clear how many were related to the technical issue. The FAA advised travelers to contact airlines directly for flight information and updates. Airlines said travelers should check online

for the latest updates on flights.

American Airlines said the technical issue affected a few of its regional carriers that operate American Eagle flights. □



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## N.Y. state poised to raise smoking age from 18 to 21

By CHRIS CAROLA  
Associated Press

**ALBANY, N.Y. (AP)** — The Democrat-controlled New York Senate passed legislation Monday putting the state a step closer to joining seven others where the legal age for buying cigarettes and electronic cigarettes has been raised from 18 to 21.

The state Assembly, also controlled by Democrats, passed its own legislation last month.

Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo also supports raising the age to 21 for purchasing cigarettes and is expected to sign the legislation. Once that happens, the new law will take effect in 120 days.

"The lifelong health effects of tobacco cannot be overstated and in New York we are committed to doing everything in our power to keep tobacco products out of the hands of young people," Cuomo said in a statement after the Senate passed the bill.

The measure will prohibit cigarette sales to anyone under 21. Seven states and hundreds of U.S. municipalities already have similar laws in place. In New York state, 21 is the minimum age for buying cigarettes in 15 counties and New York City.

The Senate legislation is sponsored by Diane Savino, who represents parts of Brooklyn and Staten Island. The measure was sponsored in the Assembly by Linda Rosenthal, of Manhattan.

Before her measure was brought to a vote, Savino told Senate colleagues how she began smoking at age 12, sneaking in a pack of cigarettes for herself when she was sent to a store near her family's Queens home to buy smokes for her mother, father and grandfather.

"No one thought there was anything wrong with a 12-year-old buying cigarettes," said Savino, who no longer smokes. "Smoking will kill you if you start."

The move toward raising the legal age of purchase to 21 in New York drew praise from anti-smoking advocates and tobacco industry lobbyists alike.

Julie Hart of the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network called the move "a no-brainer" given national studies have shown 95 percent of smokers start before they're 21.

"Our companies have long supported legislation to prevent underage access to tobacco products," Altria, the maker of Marlboro cigarettes and other tobacco products, said in a statement. □



In this Dec. 27, 2018 file photo a grower attends to a crop of young marijuana plants in Gardena, Calif.

Associated Press

## L.A. to tap tech to wipe out up to 50,000 old pot convictions

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Los Angeles-area prosecutors are joining other district attorneys to use technology to wipe out or reduce as many as 50,000 old marijuana convictions years after California voters broadly legalized the drug.

The county is working with the Code for America non-profit tech organization, which uses computer algorithms to find eligible cases that are otherwise hard to identify in decades-old court documents. It comes after San Francisco found success clearing convictions, which other cities and states nationwide said they will try to do.

"This collaboration will improve people's lives by erasing the mistakes of their past and hopefully lead them on a path to a better future," LA County District Attorney Jackie Lacey said

in a statement Monday.

San Joaquin County also announced their partnership with the group to remove up to 4,000 cases.

But there was no easy way to identify an estimated 200,000 cases statewide. Convicts had to file petitions on their own to get their records changed or hire lawyers for help with the process.

After partnering with the group, San Francisco District Attorney George Gascon announced last month that 9,300 cases dating to 1975 will be dropped or reduced for free and in many cases, without the convicts' knowledge.

It began when his office started sifting through thousands of criminal cases last year to identify eligible marijuana convictions after only 23 people who hired lawyers had taken advan-

tage of the new law.

A few months later, after managing to dismiss just over 1,000 cases during the painstaking work, Gascon partnered with Code for America, a San Francisco group that uses technology to make government more efficient.

Computer coders with the group developed the Clear My Record algorithm to quickly identify eligible cases and automatically fill out forms to file with the courts.

"When we do this right, we show that government can make good on its promises, especially for the hundreds of thousands who have been denied jobs, housing and other opportunities despite the passage of laws intended to provide relief," said Jennifer Pahlka, executive director of Code for America. □



# Brexit options: Stick close to EU? Crash out? Think again?

By JILL LAWLESS  
Associated Press

**LONDON (AP)** — Britain is running out of time and options for Brexit.

U.K. lawmakers have thrice rejected the divorce deal struck between Prime Minister Theresa May's government and the European Union. Facing an April 12 deadline to present the EU with a new Brexit proposal or crash out of the bloc, lawmakers met for new votes Monday to try to agree on a plan — and rejected all the options.

With May clinging to hope of persuading Parliament to back her Brexit deal if she asks a fourth time, a look at the most likely options:

## NO DEAL

Most politicians, economists and business groups think leaving the world's largest trading bloc without an agreement would be disastrous. It would impose tariffs on trade between Britain and the EU, bring customs checks that could cause gridlock at ports, and could spark shortages of essential goods.

Brexiters in May's Conservative Party dismiss this as "Project Fear" and argue for what they call a "clean Brexit." They have urged her not to compromise and to ramp up preparations to leave the bloc without an agreement on April 12.

Parliament has voted repeatedly to rule out a no-deal Brexit, but that remains the default position unless a deal is approved, Brexit is canceled or the EU grants



**Madeleine Kay, Young European of the Year 2018 dressed in blue holds an EU flag and entertains the public while singing about Brexit outside the Houses of Parliament in Westminster, London, ahead of the latest round of debates in the House of Commons concerning Brexit issues, Monday April 1, 2019.**

Britain another extension. May says the only way to guarantee Britain does not leave the EU without a deal is for Parliament to back her deal — which lawmakers have already rejected three times.

## MAY'S UNDEAD DEAL

After almost two years of negotiations, Britain and the EU struck a divorce deal in November, laying out the terms of the departure from the bloc and giving a rough outline of future relations.

But it has been roundly rejected by lawmakers on both sides of the Brexit divide. Pro-Brexit lawmakers think it keeps Britain too closely tied to EU rules. Pro-EU legislators argue it is

worse than the U.K.'s current status as an EU member.

Parliament has thrown it out three times, although the latest defeat, by 58 votes, was the narrowest yet. It was rejected even after May won over some pro-Brexit lawmakers by promising to quit if it was approved.

May is considering one last push this week, arguing that Parliament's failure to back any other deal means her agreement is the best option available.

## SOFT BREXIT

On Monday, Parliament voted on four alternative proposals to May's rejected deal after lawmakers seized control of the sched-

ule from the government.

None got a majority, but the votes revealed a solid block of support for a "soft Brexit" that would maintain close economic ties between Britain and the EU. A plan to keep the U.K. in an EU customs union, ensuring seamless trade in goods, was defeated by just three votes.

May has ruled those options out, because sticking to EU trade rules would limit Britain's ability to forge new trade deals around the world.

But tweaking her deal to adopt a customs union could gain May valuable votes in Parliament. It also would likely be welcomed by the EU and would allow Britain to leave the bloc in

an orderly fashion in the next few months.

## NEW BREXIT REFERENDUM

Parliament also narrowly rejected a proposal for a new referendum on whether to leave the EU or remain.

The proposal for any Brexit deal to be put to public vote in a "confirmatory referendum" was defeated by 12 votes. It was backed by opposition parties, plus some of May's Conservatives — mainly those who want to stay in the bloc.

Her government has ruled out holding another referendum on Britain's EU membership, saying voters in 2016 made their decision to leave.

## BREXIT DELAYED

The alternative to a "no-deal" departure is to delay Brexit for at least several months, and possibly more than a year, to sort out the mess. The EU is frustrated with the impasse and has said it will only grant another postponement if Britain comes up with a whole new Brexit plan.

The bloc is reluctant to have a departing Britain participate in the May 23-26 European parliament elections, but that would have to be done if Brexit is delayed. Still, EU Council President Donald Tusk has urged the bloc to give Britain a Brexit extension if it plans to change course.

A long delay raises the chances of an early British election, which could rearrange Parliament and break the deadlock. □

# Greece expected to miss its growth targets



**Bank of Greece Governor Yannis Stournaras gives a speech at the annual meeting of the bank's shareholders in Athens, on Monday, April 1, 2019.**

Associated Press

By DEREK GATOPOULOS

Associated Press

**ATHENS, Greece (AP)** — The Bank of Greece warned Monday that the country is likely to miss its 2019 growth target due to mounting international uncertainty and doubts over the government's commitment to reforms. Central bank governor Yannis Stournaras, presenting the bank's annual report, said the Greek economy was likely to grow

by 1.9 percent this year. That's below the European Commission's forecast of 2.2 percent and Greece's official budget estimate of 2.5 percent.

The news was a setback for the country's left-wing government, which faces a general election this year and has promised to ease high rates of poverty after years of crisis and international bailouts.

"In the domestic environ-

ment, increased uncertainty regarding the course of post-program reforms, together with restrictions on the financing side, have an adverse effect on investment," the central bank report said.

Greece remains under supervision of bailout lenders despite ending the rescue program in August and having twice successfully tapped bond markets this year to raise cash. □



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<p><b>TANQUI LEENDERT 139</b></p>  <p>4 Bed - 3 Bath, Fully Furnished Full renewed, Gourmet Kitchen land: 414 m<sup>2</sup> / 4,456 Ft<sup>2</sup> Home: 230 m<sup>2</sup> / 2,476 Ft<sup>2</sup> <b>Afl 668.000 \$ 375.000</b></p>	<p><b>PIEDRA PLAAT 5 K</b></p>  <p>3 Bed - 2 Bath, Swimming-pool New, Garage, Fully Furnished land: 472 m<sup>2</sup> / 5,081 Ft<sup>2</sup> Home: 140 m<sup>2</sup> / 1,507 Ft<sup>2</sup> <b>Afl 693.000 \$ 389.000</b></p>	<p><b>PALM BEACH 320</b></p>  <p>4 Bed - 3 Bath, w/guest casita Hotel area, Fully Furnished land: 520 m<sup>2</sup> / 5,597 Ft<sup>2</sup> Home: 250 m<sup>2</sup> / 2,691 Ft<sup>2</sup> <b>Afl 801.000 \$ 450.000</b></p>	<p><b>PARADERA 179 G</b></p>  <p>3 Houses in One, over 489m<sup>2</sup> of Land H.1: 2Bed - 2Bath; 130m<sup>2</sup>/1400Ft<sup>2</sup> H.2: 2Bed - 2Bath; 103m<sup>2</sup>/1109Ft<sup>2</sup> H.3: 2Bed - 2Bath; 130m<sup>2</sup>/1400Ft<sup>2</sup> <b>Afl 850.000 \$ 478.000</b></p>	<p><b>BUBALI LAND</b></p>  <p>14,160 m<sup>2</sup> / 152,418 Ft<sup>2</sup> of PRIVATE PROPERTY LAND 2 blocks from Cheng Supermarket &amp; 5 Blocks from Superfood <b>Afl 1.203.600 \$ 676.180</b></p>

## NATO chief plays down divisions as allies mark anniversary

By **LORNE COOK**  
Associated Press

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — The United States and its allies are stepping up cooperation in response to Russian aggression, NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said Monday while playing down differences among members as the military alliance marks its 70th anniversary.

Foreign ministers from NATO countries are meeting in Washington this week for the occasion, determined to show a united front in the midst of a long military stalemate in Afghanistan and tensions with Russia returned to Cold War era levels.

But as NATO deploys thousands of troops and equipment to deter Russia and seeks solutions to fast-evolving new threats such as cyberattacks and hybrid warfare, its biggest challenge arguably lies within. Damaging infighting over defense spending and authoritarian tendencies exhibited by some allies undermine NATO's values, according to experts.

"The strength of NATO is that despite these differences, we have always been able to unite around our core tasks. That is, to protect and defend each other," NATO chief Stoltenberg said in Brussels before



**NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg speaks during a media conference at NATO headquarters in Brussels, Monday, April 1, 2019.**

Associated Press

the trip. Stoltenberg has talks with U.S. President Donald Trump planned for Tuesday. He is scheduled to address Congress on Wednesday. A big source of the internal strain is Trump's recurrent demand that countries devote an amount equal to at least 2 percent of GDP to defense spending — though that metric takes no account of how well the money is spent — as well as the U.S. president's reluctance to criticize strongmen like Russian President Vladimir Putin. "NATO's single greatest challenge is the absence of strong, principled American presidential leadership for the first time in its history," two former U.S. envoys to NATO, Nicholas Burns and Douglas Lute, wrote in a report for the alliance an-

niversary.

Trump, they said, is seen by allies as NATO's "most urgent, and often most difficult, problem."

The White House said last month in a statement about Stoltenberg's talks with Trump on Tuesday that the two would "discuss the unprecedented success of NATO, including the recent increased commitments on burden-sharing among European allies and ways to address the current, evolving challenges facing the alliance."

Trump made a memorable impression on leaders from Canada and European nations during his first NATO summit in May 2017. During a speech outside NATO's new Brussels headquarters, he publicly humiliated them. Trump also cast

doubt on whether they could count on Washington to fulfill NATO's collective defense clause.

The speech was delivered by a memorial made from a twisted piece of the World Trade Center towers felled by al-Qaida's airliner attacks on Sept. 11, 2011. Since the founding Washington Treaty was signed on April 4, 1949, NATO has only once activated the clause stating that an attack on one member is an attack on them all, after the 9/11 attacks.

Trump also delayed a summit last year with fresh demands on burden sharing. That time, at least, his dressing down about the U.S. spending more on defense than the other NATO members combined happened behind closed doors.

Trump's routine tirades have fueled suspicion his aim mostly is to drum up business for the U.S. defense industry.

But the attitude of Trump — who walked away from the Iran nuclear deal and the Paris climate change agreement his allies in Europe value while making tariff threats against them — also is similar to authoritarian or populist streaks showing up in NATO members Turkey, Hungary, Italy and Poland.

"The political and trans-At-

lantic unity that underpins NATO has been weakened. Only bad guys benefit from trans-Atlantic division and a U.S. retreat from its global leadership role," Anders Fogh Rasmussen, Stoltenberg's predecessor as NATO's top civilian official, said in an email exchange with The Associated Press.

"We see the consequences of U.S. retreat, with autocrats and dictators filling the vacuum," he added, Burns and Lute say this retreat from democracy, individual freedoms and the rule of law is "a potentially cancerous threat."

Still, NATO has survived formidable challenges over the decades, including the Cuban missile crisis and the missile race in Europe. It's also remained intact after internal divisions over the Suez Canal, the Iraq war, and France's departure from the alliance's command structure. Officials say they are confident NATO will endure now, too. Trump is not scheduled to appear at the upcoming talks of NATO foreign ministers, but he is expected to attend a leaders' summit in London in mid-December.

"I hope we will not see a repeat of President Trump's antics in Brussels last year. It's time for the world's democracies to show their unity," Rasmussen said. □



# Algeria's leader, ceding to protests, will quit by April 28

By AOMAR OUALI  
THOMAS ADAMSON  
Associated Press

**ALGIERS, Algeria (AP)** — Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika will step down before his fourth term ends on April 28, his office said Monday, as the ailing leader capitulated to growing calls for his resignation after two decades in power.

It's unclear if the stunning move will appease the masses of protesters whose vociferous calls for Bouteflika and his cadre of loyalists to quit have expanded to demand an overhaul of the entire political system. Their weekly since Feb. 22 have challenged the political status quo in the country long ruled by Bouteflika, 82, a onetime wily political survivor who has rarely been seen in public since he suffered a stroke in 2013. A short statement from Bouteflika's office said he would take "important steps to ensure the continuity of the functioning of state institutions" after he leaves the office he assumed in 1999.

The Algerian Constitution calls for the head of the upper house of parliament, Abdelkader Bensalah, to act as interim leader for a maximum of 90 days while an election is organized. Algerian national televi-



In this April 28, 2014 file photo, Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika sits in a wheelchair after taking oath as President, in Algiers.

sion reported Sunday night that Bouteflika and the replacement prime minister he appointed last month, Noureddine Bedoui, had formed a new government after struggling for weeks to find potential Cabinet ministers amid the uncertainty surrounding the president. The new government must stay in place during the transition period before the next election.

In recent weeks, the president saw key figures withdraw their support from him. Algeria's powerful army chief proposed

launching a procedure to have Bouteflika declared unfit for office, prompting tensions between the army and the president's inner circle.

The president's concession came after a court in Algeria said it was investigating corruption and the illegal transfer of funds abroad amid concerns about a flight of capital from the country amid political instability.

The official APS news agency quoted the Algerian prosecutor's office Monday as saying "certain people"

were banned from leaving the country "for the needs of the investigation," providing no details.

Police detained a powerful industrialist who is thought to be close to Bouteflika, Ali Haddad, near the Algerian-Tunisian border over the weekend.

Algeria is Africa's biggest country by land mass and a major natural gas producer, but its energy riches have not trickled down to reach the pockets of its people.

The protests have been driven mostly by young

Algerians, many of whom struggle to find jobs. Desperation has driven some to attempt to migrate to Europe on rickety boats.

Demonstrators said Bouteflika and the rest of the political establishment were out of touch with their everyday problems. They have called for a rewritten constitution that gives fewer powers to the president in a bid to strengthen democracy in the gas-rich North African country.

Ending his presidency amid the protests was a bold decision for Bouteflika, who in February declared he would seek a fifth term in the presidential election originally scheduled for April 18.

He postponed the election and said he would not be a candidate when it was held, but did not set a new date, angering critics who saw the delay as designed to hold onto power.

Bouteflika had been known as a political survivor ever since he fought during the 1950s and 1960s for Algeria's independence from France.

He became foreign minister at the age of 25, and stood up to the likes of Henry Kissinger at the height of the Cold War, when Algeria was tethered to the former Soviet Union. □

# Rescuers struggle to reach storm-hit area in Nepal; 28 dead

By UPENDRA MAN SINGH  
Associated Press

**BHARWALIA, Nepal (AP)** — Villagers who survived a powerful rainstorm that killed at least 28 people and injured hundreds in southern Nepal searched for food and shelter Monday as rescuers struggled to reach remote areas. High winds during the storm Sunday night flipped cars and blew a bus carrying at least 40 people off a highway, killing some.

Police said most of the deaths were caused by collapsing walls and falling bricks in homes and toppled trees and electrical poles.

The storm swept through villages in a farming region in



A man collects water from a hand pump next to the debris of houses damaged in a rainstorm in Bara district, 125 kilometers (75 miles) south of Kathmandu, Nepal, Monday, April 1, 2019.

Associated Press

Bara and Parsa districts. The government administrator in Bara, Rajesh Poudel, said 27 were killed there. One person died in neighboring

Parsa, administrator Narayan Bhattarai said.

The area is about 120 kilometers (75 miles) south of the capital, Kathmandu.

Police officers and soldiers were helping people injured by the rainstorm. Villagers from neighboring districts were also distributing food to the victims.

Prime Minister Khadga Prasad Oli canceled a visit to western Nepal and was flying to the area to observe rescue efforts, his office said. The National Emergency Operation Center in Kathmandu said 612 people were injured and teams with tents and other materials were sent to the area.

Injured people were still being brought to Narayani hospital, the largest in the region, Dr. Sushil Pokhrel said. He said 395 patients had been treated.

Beds were filled to capacity and patients were lying on the floors of corridors at the hospital. Villagers salvaged what they could from what was left of their homes in Bharwalia village, where most people live in huts made of mud and bricks with straw and stone roofs. Most of the huts were blown down by the strong winds, leaving people without shelter or food.

"The storm took everything we had, including all the goods we had. We have no food to eat or any roof over our heads," said Jebeda Khatung, who was digging through the debris in hopes of finding some of her belongings. All four members of her family survived. □





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## New Japan era to be called 'Reiwa,' or pursuing harmony

By MARI YAMAGUCHI

Associated Press

**TOKYO (AP)** — The era of Japan's next emperor, which begins May 1, will be named "Reiwa," connoting pursuit of harmony, the government said Monday after selecting the phrase from ancient Japanese poetry instead of Chinese classics as Prime Minister Shinzo Abe promotes national pride.

The current "Heisei," or "achieving peace," era will end with Emperor Akihito's abdication on April 30. His son, Naruhito, is to ascend the throne the following day.

While a growing number of Japanese prefer the Western calendar over the Japanese system in a highly digitalized and globalized society, era names are still widely used in government and business documents and on calendars. Many people use them to identify generations and historical periods.

The choice had been kept strictly secret ahead of Monday's announcement. Abe said the two characters were taken from a poem about plum blossoms in the "Manyoshu," a 7th century poetry collection, and mean that "culture is born and nurtured as the people's hearts are beautifully drawn together." He said "Manyoshu" is Japan's oldest collection of poetry written by both royals and ordinary people, and it was appropriate to choose the name from a book symbolizing Japan's rich culture and tradition.

Abe said the government selected the name "with hopes of making Japan a nation where every person can achieve dreams, like the plum flowers that bloom beautifully after a



Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga unveils the name of new era "Reiwa" at the prime minister's office in Tokyo, Monday, April 1, 2019.

severe winter to signal the start of spring."

The first character of the era name, "rei," also means "good" or "beautiful," while the second, "wa" could mean "peace," "harmony" or "mild" as in the introduction to a Manyoshu section with poems about plum flowers. "It is now the good month in early spring, the air is fresh and wind is soft. The plums blossoms are like the white powder of a beauty before a mirror, the fragrance like that which follows the sash of a noble lady," it says, describing a scene at a party where people open their hearts.

The break from 1,400 years of drawing era names from Chinese classics was expected from Abe's conservative government, which is often hawkish toward China. Abe and his strongest supporters have campaigned to bolster national pride, which they say was

lost because of war guilt taught during the U.S. occupation after Japan's World War II defeat. Abe also has been pushing to restore an authoritative image of the emperor.

"We hope (the era name) will be widely accepted by the people and deeply rooted as part of their daily lives," Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said in announcing the name, written with two Chinese characters in black ink calligraphy on a white background.

The announcement gives the government, businesses and people only a month to adjust to a change that affects many parts of Japanese society, even though the system is not compulsory and the emperor has no political power under Japan's postwar constitution. Under a 1979 law, a panel of experts on classical Chinese and Japanese literature was appointed in mid-

March to nominate names that met strict criteria, including being easy to read and write but not common. The nominations were presented first to nine outside experts, including Nobel Prize-winning stem-cell scientist Shinya Yamanaka and award-winning novelist Mariko Hayashi, to present their views and narrow the selection before final approval by the Cabinet. Although some names nominated in the past have come from Japanese classics, none was ever chosen. "I think the first adoption of an era name drawn from Japanese classics under the Abe government, which has the strong backing of conservatives, seems to be quite significant," said Eiichi Miyashiro, an era name expert and senior editorial staff member at the Asahi newspaper. Taking the name from a Japanese book stresses the country's identity, and

Manyoshu is a great choice because it is an anthology that documents the people's own voices, Robert Campbell, head of the National Institute of Japanese Literature in Tokyo, said in an interview with public broadcaster NHK.

Discussing and guessing the new era name in advance was not considered a taboo this time because Akihito is abdicating, a highly unusual step. Era name changes are also a time for many Japanese to reflect on the outgoing and incoming periods.

"Many Japanese people don't think of an emperor when they mention an era name. Changes in eras are a rare occasion when people realize the link between the era name and the emperor," Miyashiro said.

The new name seemed well-received.

Office worker Yoshiko Sugita, 50, said she liked the name's second character, "wa," which means peace or harmony. "I hope that harmony and peace will also continue in this new era," she said.

Akihito's Heisei era was the first without war in Japan's modern history, but is also remembered as a period of lost years caused by economic deflation and natural disasters.

Era name changes create a host of business opportunities. Anything dubbed "last of Heisei" attracts Akihito fans, while others wait to submit marriage certificates or file other official registrations until the new era starts. Analysts say the era change, which will extend Japan's "Golden Week" holiday period to 10 days with the addition of May 1, could buoy tourism and other recreational spending. □



# Venezuelan judge moves to strip opposition leader's immunity

By **SCOTT SMITH**  
**Associated Press**

**CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)**

— Venezuela's chief justice on Monday asked lawmakers to strip opposition leader Juan Guaido of immunity, taking a step toward prosecuting him for alleged crimes as he seeks to oust President Nicolas Maduro. Supreme Court Justice Mai-kel Moreno said Guaido should be prosecuted for violating a ban on leaving the country when he went on a tour of Latin American nations that back a change in Venezuela's government.

The opposition leader, who has immunity from prosecution as head of the National Assembly, is also accused by Maduro's government of inciting violence linked to street protests and receiving illicit funds from abroad.

Guaido dismissed the Maduro-stacked high court as illegitimate and continued his calls for Maduro to step down. He accused the socialist leader of using the constant blackouts blanketing the country as political capital. The opposition leader has said years of ne-



**Juan Guaido, Venezuelan opposition leader and self-proclaimed interim president, attends a meeting at a university in Caracas, Venezuela, Monday, April 1, 2019.**

glect by the government has left the grid in shambles — not sabotage.

He urged Venezuelans to take the streets until Maduro leaves power.

"We must unite now more than ever," said Guaido at a Caracas university earlier Monday. "We must mount the biggest demonstration so far to reject what's happening."

Since a massive power failure struck March 7, the

nation has experienced near-daily blackouts and a breakdown in critical services such as running water and public transportation. Classes have been intermittently suspended for nearly a week, while workdays tend to end in the early afternoon so millions aren't stranded due to cuts to the Caracas metro service.

At the same time, frustrated residents are increasingly unable to find water, make

phone calls or access the internet. Millions of Venezuelans struggle to understand an announcement by Maduro a day earlier that the nation's electricity is being rationed to combat daily blackouts.

Maduro said late Sunday that he was instituting a 30-day plan that would balance generation and transmission with consumption. He also called on Venezuelans to stay calm, but

provided no further details. Office worker Raquel Mayorca said she didn't know if her lights were off because of another power failure — or whether it was part of the government's plan.

"We are worse off now more than ever," she said, adding that the power was out on one side of the street, but working on the other. "We do not know if the light went out due to a blackout, or whether they took it away because of the rationing."

As the lack of electricity became the latest sticking point in an ongoing political standoff, however, many Venezuelans simply found themselves wondering what the newly announced rationing plan would entail.

With few details, it was difficult to assess how effective the plan would be in restoring a consistent supply of power in the long term. Some electricity experts have also said there are no quick fixes to Venezuela's fragile power grid, presenting the prospect that electricity could be shaky and unreliable for the foreseeable future. □

**Associated Press**

# Guatemala: 2nd child dead in US custody had flu, infection

By **SONIA PEREZ D.**  
**Associated Press**

**GUATEMALA CITY (AP)** —

An 8-year-old Guatemalan boy who died while in custody of the U.S. border patrol on Christmas Eve died of the flu and a bacterial infection, authorities in the Central American nation said Monday.

Oscar Padilla, Guatemalan consul in Phoenix, Arizona, told The Associated Press that a report on the autopsy of Felipe Gomez Alonzo was delivered in recent days and had found he died from the infection and "complications from influenza B."

The New Mexico Office of the Medical Investigator said Monday that the report is still open and has not been finalized.

The office previously reported in a Dec. 27 statement that the boy tested positive



**This Dec. 12, 2018 file photo provided by Catarina Gomez on Thursday, Dec. 27, 2018, shows her stepbrother Felipe Gomez Alonzo, 8, near her home in Yalambojoch, Guatemala.**

**Associated Press**

for the flu based on swabs of the lungs and nasal passage, but that "determining an accurate cause of

death requires further evaluation."

Gomez and his 47-year-old father, Agustin Gomez, fled

the poverty of their home village of Yalambojoch and crossed in the United States on Dec. 18 at El Paso, Texas. They were detained the same day.

The father has said that the boy was in good health when they were taken into custody.

But days later he had flu symptoms and was brought to a hospital, where he died.

Gomez was the second Guatemalan migrant child to die in U.S. custody in December.

An autopsy released Friday on the other child, 7-year-old Jakelin Caal Maquin, found that her death Dec. 8 was also due to bacterial infection.

That report found bacteria in her lungs, liver, spleen and adrenal glands and said she suffered a rapid, progressive infection that

led to multiple organ failure.

"We have not been able to establish where they were infected," Padilla said of Gomez and Caal. "We do not know if it was in Mexico or in border custody. What we know is that the children left their homes healthy."

Johana Samayoa, chief of chronic infections at the Roosevelt Hospital in Guatemala, said these kinds of infections typically have an incubation period of eight days and can be deadly if not treated, especially in combination with other factors such as malnutrition.

In recent days U.S. President Donald Trump has said he will cut aid to Guatemala as well as neighboring El Salvador and Honduras over Central American migration to the United States. □



## LOCAL



## Aruba to Me

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**Rich and Marie Szempruch  
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wrote to us:**

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loving touch of beauty  
and peace. We have  
been returning to enjoy  
Aruba's sunsets for 14  
years.”***



## Aruba to Me

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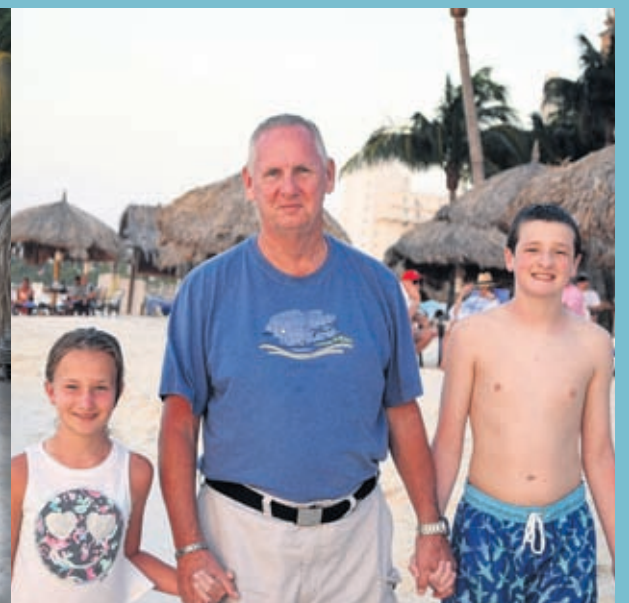
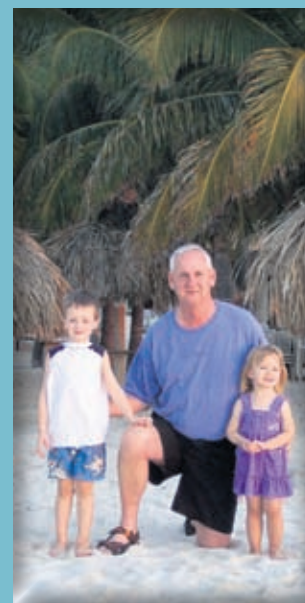
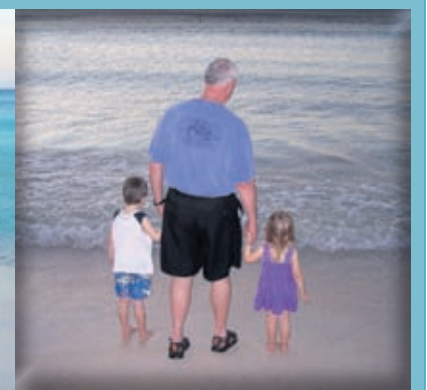
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For today's newspaper we received 2 great pictures from  
**Andrew, Madilyn and  
Bob Dundee, Chicago,  
Illinois. They wrote to us:**

***“Aruba is to us....  
fun with papa &  
Aruba is to us....first  
looks”***

**“The February 2011 picture was the first time that the kids were in Aruba. And the February 2019 picture was this past year, our 7th.**

**The 2011 picture is the first time Andrew and Madilyn ever saw the ocean back in February 2011. And the 2019 is 7 times later this past February.”**





# Island Insight

*Geo Insular Patrimony*



Article by Etnia Nativa  
Call us at 5922702 and book your experience  
etniana03@gmail.com  
DESIGN BY STEFFEN MAAS



## Episode XII: Rock Formations and Rock Art Sites

Each week we share the most interesting and revealing articles regarding Aruba, a destination to be explored, we can find, and so doing uncover amazing and informative stories along the way.

**ORANJESTAD** — Two week ago was the last day permitted by law on which the inhabitants of this island had their opportunity to express and voice their concerns and documented observations regarding ROP or insular territorial and space management plan for the next 10 years. Document which had to be delivered at DIP, Aruba's Department of Infrastructure and Planning. Remarkable was the impact the Town Hall Meeting made, organized by the Island's Chamber of Commerce and Industry revealing the lack of information available for the general public in finding help to assess their individual situation problems and worries. A consolidated report request answers to the relative importance of all the issues presented that night concerning island's territorial providence.



**Pic. 1 Arikoc rock formation and pictograph site in side PNA.**

We as Etnia Nativa's voiced and share our knowledge in this matter concerning the status and importance of archeological sites, rock formations, historical as well as Natural Monuments, island's endemic flora and fauna preservation, waste management and demographic impact on the natural environment in relation with UN SDG indicators.

Our island has a significant collection of prehistoric rock art sites. While efforts has been made in the past to educate the general public to participate in the conservation of our Natural Heritage, the same unfortunately cannot be said of rock-art situated in the open-air. Very little has been done to understand and managing weather effects and erosion phenomena affecting ancient imagery within the relatively protected environments of caves and rock formation shelters. Despite the fact that the number of known sites has risen in recent decades there are few examples in which the weathering and erosion dynamics are under investigation with a view to developing proposals and to mitigate the impact of natural and cultural processes. Most of the work being done in different parts of the world appears to be ad-hoc, with minimal communication on such matters between teams and with the wider archaeological community. From the many calls for conservation of rock-art coming from very different parts of the world it becomes apparent that there are many threats to the perpetuation of this significant heritage. Nevertheless, while some authors reference physical weathering as the most pressing risk, others invoke the negative effects of biodegradation, especially when lichen colonization is concerned. In the present a relevant case study regarding vandalism at rock-art sites is recommended. We suggested that the way emphasis

is placed on the different forms of risk has much to do with the specific area of expertise of each researcher involved, and, more importantly, with the different environments where rock-art exists. Hence, different settings will determine which weathering patterns are more active and pose more urgent risks to be dealt with by rock-art managers and conservators. The worldwide paucity of experienced rock-art professionals signals that open-air rock-art conservation has not received the attention that other archaeological remains have attracted.

### Pictograph/Petroglyph.

In total ca 301 pictographs (including 3 petroglyphs) have been found on Aruba. Of course one drawing can be as little as a point or line that may be meant as a separate drawing by the ancient artist. Still, by counting every separate representation that every-



**Pic. 2. Arikoc pictograph collection in an QD bolder**

body would call a drawing one reaches at a total of approximately 270 to 331 separate drawings representations over 17 sites. Drawings that are at tens of meters distance of each

other are considered one site, one cluster. In fact, "sites" within a radius of 500 m are considered one cluster.

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**Pic. 3. painting showing form of a man in red pigmentation surrounded by white colored radiating circles.**



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## Episode XII: Rock Formations and Rock Art Sites



Article by Etnia Nativa  
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DESIGN BY STEFFEN MAAS



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Arikok contains one of the most beautiful rock art collections of Aruba. All pictures in this episode refer to this particular site that is situated within the premises of Aruba's National Park of the same name. During the study of the pictographs at Arikok, 4 clusters of drawings turned out to be situated on one straight line, more or less north-south over a distance of 415 m.

We'll be back next week for a following episode. Now, if you've liked our stories book your reservation for a personal Etnia Nativa experience through [etnianativa03@gmail.com](mailto:etnianativa03@gmail.com) and take Aruba home with you. □



Pic. 4 the famous bird whit open wings logo type of the Park



## Aruba to Me

ORANJESTAD – We would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island. Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is ..... Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: [news@arubatoday.com](mailto:news@arubatoday.com) and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation.

Last but not least: check out our website and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again.□



For today's newspaper we received a great picture from

**Mike & Marie Ruggiero.**  
**Marie wrote to us:**

***"Aruba to Me (Us) is our home away from home. My husband & I have been coming to Aruba for 30 years. We certainly consider it our home away from home. We love the people, the weather and meeting dear friends every year."***

## Bohemian Restaurant: Check In Please

PALM BEACH — Avant-garde from France, non-conformist in style and ethnic in cuisine. That is what the new kid in town is about and WEDNESDAY NIGHT they even top the eclectic vibe with live Flamenco singer Angela Baidez. Bohemian Restaurant is a different swing, European flair and outside dining, a place from the same owner as the

for years already successful Casa Tua restaurants. They know their dance well, but this time they lift it to a different level.

From 8 PM tomorrow night Spanish Paella and much more is on the menu, of course with pairing wines. The beautiful garden of Bohemian will be filled with lights, good food and live

music in an intimate, hip and offbeat ambiance. Catchy Rumba Gitana and dramatic Spanish ballads combine with the passionately prepared dishes to tickle your taste buds to the max. Bohemian Restaurant is located on the corner of Barceló Resort in the center of the hi-rise frenzy.

Free Parking available at the parking lot in front of Barcelo Resort.

Make your reservations through their website: <https://bohemianaruba.com>. Call them at 00 297 280 8448. Facebook: Bohemian. □





# SPORTS



Drive Denny Hamlin celebrates in victory lane after winning a NASCAR Cup auto race at Texas Motor Speedway, Sunday, March 31, 2019, in Fort Worth, Texas.

Associated Press

## Hamlin overcomes 2 pit penalties at Texas for 2nd win of '19

By STEPHEN HAWKINS  
AP Sports Writer

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP)

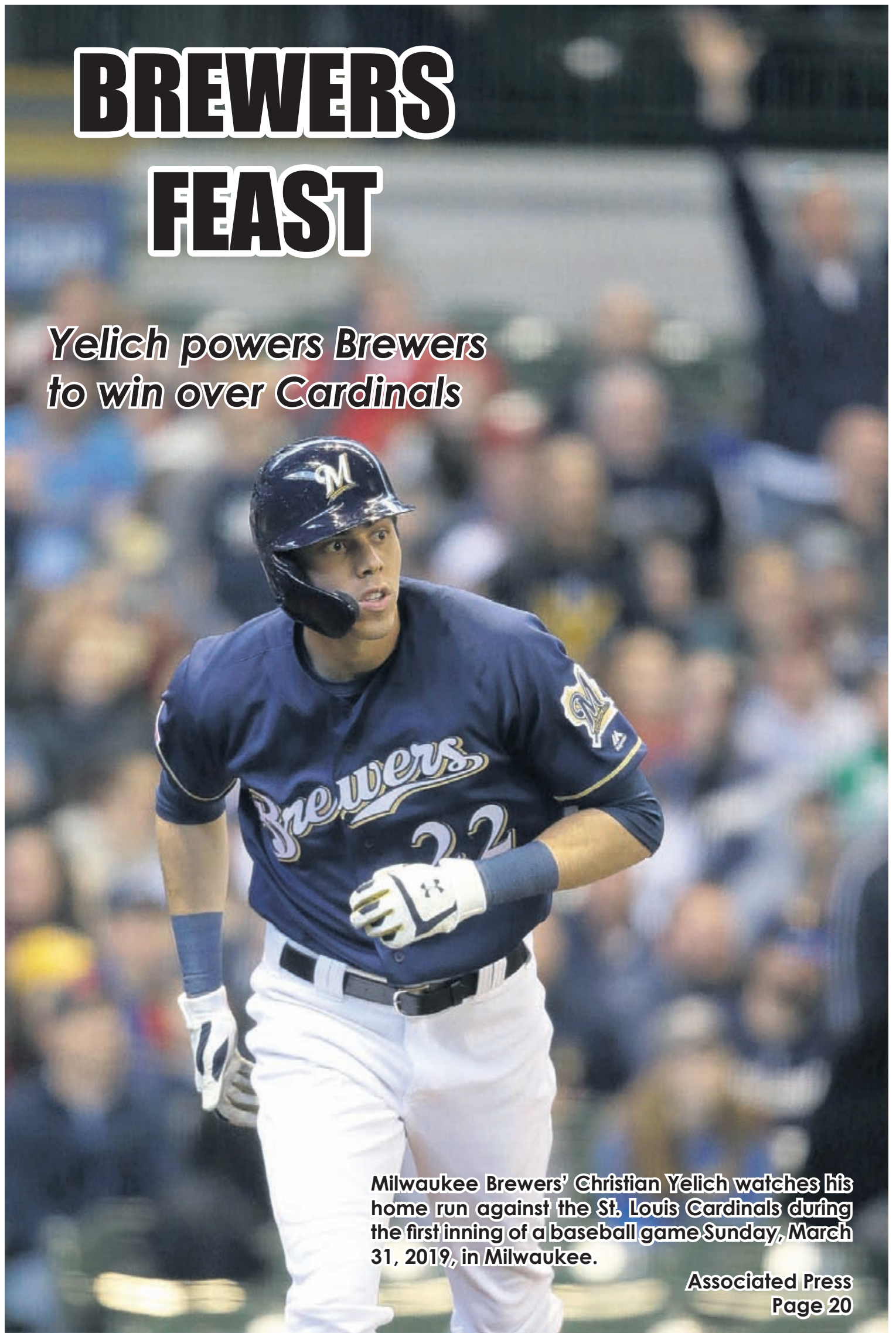
— Denny Hamlin had such a fast car at Texas that he was able to win even after two penalties on pit road and some other issues during green flag conditions. While Hamlin was reviewing all that happened, crew chief Chris Gabehart interrupted — “I think you passed 327 cars by my count, but maybe not,” he said.

Hamlin, who once missed the entry to pit road and also ran out fuel during the race, did do a lot of passing to get to Victory Lane on Sunday. He led the final 12 laps and 45 overall to overcome those miscues and the penalties — one when he exited pit road too fast early in the day and another for a debatable tire violation against his team during a stop just past the halfway point.

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# BREWERS FEAST

Yelich powers Brewers to win over Cardinals



Milwaukee Brewers' Christian Yelich watches his home run against the St. Louis Cardinals during the first inning of a baseball game Sunday, March 31, 2019, in Milwaukee.

Associated Press  
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# Kevin Kisner gets it right at Dell Technologies Match Play

By **DOUG FERGUSON**

AP Golf Writer

**AUSTIN, Texas (AP)** — Kevin Kisner can't think of another tournament that made him grind so hard.

He began the Dell Technologies Match Play with a loss in the opening round. He had to play 120 holes over five days. Three matches were decided on the 18th hole. He had to play three sudden-death playoff holes just to get to the weekend. And on Sunday morning, he faced a cold wind that made temperatures feel like the upper 30s.

It all felt worth it when he made good on his second try at winning golf's most unpredictable tournament. Kisner outlasted British Open champion Francesco Molinari in the semifinals, and then let Matt Kuchar make the untimely mistakes Sunday afternoon until Kisner closed him out with a 20-foot putt for a 3-and-2 victory. "Grueling, not only from the mental side, but the physical side," Kisner said. "A lot of golf and a lot of stressful holes and stressful putts."

Kisner, who won \$1,745,000 for his first World Golf Championships title, recalls his father staking him \$16,000 to see if he could make it as a pro golfer. He won his third



**Kevin Kisner, right, holds his trophy presented by Michael Dell, CEO of Dell Technologies, after he defeated Matt Kuchar in the finals at the Dell Technologies Match Play Championship golf tournament, Sunday, March 31, 2019, in Austin, Texas.**

tournament on the mini-tours, and when his bank account reached \$40,000, he thought he was rich.

The lesson along the way: Make putts or lose money. That's what works at the Match Play, and he delivered enough key moments to capture the biggest win of his career.

"It was a long week. I prevailed. And I'm a world golf champion," Kisner said.

He became the first player to win Match Play after los-

ing in the championship match the previous year.

"If you'd have told me I'd be sitting here 10 years ago, I would probably have said you were crazy," Kisner said. "I think it shows in my grind. That's what I do. I've had ups and downs throughout it. I've won on every tour, every level. And had tremendous downfalls on every tour and every level. So I pride myself in the way I pick myself up and keep grinding."

Last year wasn't close, as Bubba Watson raced out to a big lead and ended the match on the 12th hole. Kisner never trailed against Kuchar, which didn't make it any easier. Kuchar had a 12-foot putt to win his second straight hole and tie the match on No. 10, with momentum sure to follow. He missed, and on his next swing, Kuchar put his tee shot in the water on the par-3 11th. Kisner, equipped with a 2-up lead,

took it from there. He made putts from 6 feet and 4 feet to halve holes, and seized control on the 15th when Kuchar's chip was too strong and led to another lost hole. "It's tough to maintain the high level of play the entire tournament," Kuchar said. "You hope to do it and I feel like I've kind of built a game that I could rely on playing some good, steady golf. But I gave too many holes away. I knew against Kisner I couldn't do it, and he just plodded along ... and let me make mistakes. And that was good playing by Kevin."

Kisner became the first player to win the Match Play with a loss during the round-robin portion, which began in 2015. That felt like an eternity ago when he posed in front of the trophy, the sixth straight victory for an American in these World Golf Championships.

Kisner first had to get past British Open champion Francesco Molinari, so dominant that he had never played the 18th hole in five previous matches this week. Molinari birdied the 16th and 17th holes to tie the match, but on the 18th, the Italian three-putted from 25 feet above the hole as Kisner advanced. □

**Associated Press**



**Nasa Hataoka, of Japan, poses with the winner trophy after winning the Kia Classic LPGA golf tournament, Sunday, March 31, 2019, in Carlsbad, Calif.**

**Associated Press**

**CARLSBAD, Calif. (AP)** — Nasa Hataoka won the Kia Classic on Sunday at Avilar Golf Club for her third victory in her last 16 LPGA Tour starts.

The 20-year-old Japanese player closed with a 5-under 67 for a three-stroke

victory over playing partner Inbee Park, top-ranked Sung Hyun Park, Jin Young Ko, Azahara Munoz and Danielle Kang.

"First couple days I wasn't putting very well so I didn't really think I could pull this off," Hataoka said through

## Nasa Hataoka wins Kia Classic for 3rd LPGA Tour victory

a translator. "Until the 18th hole, anything could happen, but I was just very relieved that my second shot landed on the putting surface." After driving left into the water en route to a bogey on the par-4 16th, Hataoka hit a sand wedge to a foot for birdie on the par-5 17th and closed with a par on the par-4 18th.

"I forgot about the bogey very quickly," she said. "I knew that 17 was a chance I could make a birdie, and just very relieved and felt great that I was able to actually get a birdie."

Hataoka shot a 64 on

Saturday to pull within a stroke of Inbee Park entering the final round in the final event before the major ANA Inspiration at Mission Hills in Rancho Mirage. "Big tournament coming up next week, so I'll celebrate a little bit but get my mind refreshed and start again next week," Hataoka said.

"She played really solid," Inbee Park said.

"Didn't really look like she was feeling the pressure, especially in the way she played the last hole. Just very smart."

Winless in 12 months, Inbee Park had a 71 to miss

a chance for her 20th LPGA Tour victory. "Just unfortunate day with the putter," she said. "Never wanted to go in. Just one of those days. I just have to take it. I think it's still a very good momentum going into next week."

Sung Hyun Park also shot 71. Ko and Kang had 65s, and Munoz a 68. Ko won the Founders Cup last week in Phoenix.

Hyo Joo Kim matched the course record with a 62 to tie for seventh at 14 under. She parred the first five holes, then played the final 13 in 10 under with an eagle on 16. □



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## Hamlin overcomes 2 pit penalties at Texas for 2nd win of '19

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"I was just beating my head against the steering wheel thinking, 'Man, we're going to finish bad with a really fast race car,'" Hamlin said. "We just kept digging and Chris kept doing a good job encouraging us. We had a long way to go. We kept passing cars and passing cars."

Hamlin's No. 11 Toyota finished more than 2.7 seconds ahead of Clint Bowyer. The 334-lap race at the 1 1/2-mile track, with only three cautions outside the two stage stoppages, featured 27 lead changes among 13 drivers. It was the 33rd career victory for Hamlin. He won the season-opening Daytona 500 after he went winless last year and ending a streak of 12 consecutive seasons getting into Victory Lane.

His third win at Texas was his first since sweeping both

races at the track in 2010. Gibbs drivers have won four of the seven races this season, and Team Penske won the other three.

All four Stewart-Haas Racing cars finished in the top eight, led by Bowyer and Daniel Suarez finishing third. Aric Almirola and Kevin Harvick were seventh and eighth.

Erik Jones, another Gibbs driver, finished fourth and polesitter Jimmie Johnson was fifth, just ahead of his Hendrick Motorsports teammate William Byron. Kurt Busch was ninth and JGR driver Kyle Busch finished 10th despite leading a race-high 66 laps in his attempt for a tripleheader weekend sweep.

Kyle Busch led six times, and was still in front with 59 laps to go when his No. 18 Toyota drifted high going into Turn 2.

"It just busted loose on me, and I had to catch it and make sure we didn't crash,"

he said. While he avoided contact then, he slipped back to fourth. When trying to get back in front a few laps later, he brushed the outside wall and fell a lap behind after having to go to pit road.

For the second time in a month, he missed out on a tripleheader sweep following Xfinity and Truck Series races in the same weekend. He completed such sweeps twice at Bristol, in 2010 and 2017.

It was the third time at Texas that Kyle Busch won the Xfinity and Trucks races before coming up short in the weekend-ending Cup race. That also happened to him at his home track in Las Vegas four weeks earlier.

**POSITIVE SIGNS**

While Johnson's career-worst winless drought reached 66 races, he started from the pole for the first time since 2016 and his 61 laps led were more than he



Drive Denny Hamlin celebrates in victory lane after winning a NASCAR Cup auto race at Texas Motor Speedway, Sunday, March 31, 2019, in Fort Worth, Texas.

Associated Press

had combined since the start of 2018.

Johnson led 40 laps all of last season, and only four in the first six races this year. The No. 48 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet last went to Victory Lane in June 2017 at Dover.

"We are definitely moving in the right direction. Car was good in clean air and had a lot of speed in

it, so I think we have found kind of center for our cars and what has to happen," Johnson said.

"We've had a lot of pressure on us, and everyone has stepped up and is getting it done."

Along with strong finishes by Johnson and Byron, Chase Elliott was 13th. Alex Bowman was 18th in a backup car. □



# Yelich powers Brewers to dramatic 5-4 win over Cardinals

By The Associated Press

**MILWAUKEE (AP)** — Christian Yelich hit his fourth homer in the first inning and a two-run double in the ninth, leading the Milwaukee Brewers to a dramatic 5-4 win over the St. Louis Cardinals on Sunday.

Ben Gamel led off the ninth with a pinch-hit double and advanced on Lorenzo Cain's infield single off reliever Jordan Hicks' glove. Yelich then hit a liner into the gap in left-center, driving in Gamel and Cain.

Yelich tossed his helmet in the air in celebration as Cain slid face first across the plate, giving Milwaukee three wins in its opening four-game set against rival St. Louis. Yelich's teammates rushed the field and doused the reigning NL MVP with Gatorade in a raucous celebration at second.

Yelich began his day with a long drive into the second deck in right against Michael Wacha, tying the major league record for homers in consecutive games to start a season. He also became the first player to win the MVP award and then homer in his first four games of the next season. Paul Goldschmidt, Matt Carpenter and Paul DeJong homered for St. Louis,



Milwaukee Brewers' Christian Yelich reacts after his winning double off the St. Louis Cardinals during the ninth inning of a baseball game Sunday, March 31, 2019, in Milwaukee.

but Hicks (0-1) blew his first save opportunity of the season. Wacha struck out seven while pitching six innings of one-run ball.

Jacob Barnes (1-0) worked the ninth for the win.

**PHILLIES 5, BRAVES 1**

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — Bryce Harper homered for the

second straight game to cap a fantastic debut weekend and Philadelphia completed a three-game sweep of Atlanta.

Harper connected on a solo shot to right off Shane Carle in the seventh inning that had the crowd resuming its "MVP!" chants from

a day earlier and the Phillie Phanatic dancing atop the dugout. Carle then drilled cleanup hitter Rhys Hoskins on the left shoulder and was ejected from the game, and Phillies fans taunted him with a mock tomahawk chop.

The sweep was complete — and it's time for an early reunion.

Harper, the hit of the city, is back on familiar turf this week when the Phillies head to Washington for a two-game set with the Nationals.

Jake Arrieta (1-0) walked six, struck out six and allowed a run in six innings. Kyle Wright (0-1) was chased after 4 1/3 innings with five walks and a hit batter.

**NATIONALS 6, METS 5**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Trea Turner homered twice, including a game-ending solo shot, and Washington beat New York for its first win of the season.

Turner earlier hit a three-run homer and also scored in the fifth to put the Nationals up 4-1. They let a 5-2 lead evaporate in the eighth before Turner ended it with a drive off Justin Wilson (0-

1). Sean Doolittle (1-0) got the win despite allowing successive RBI singles in the Mets eighth. Patrick Corbin gave up two runs and seven hits over six innings in his Washington debut. Corbin spent six seasons in Arizona before signing a \$140 million, six-year deal with the Nationals last offseason.

**PADRES 3, GIANTS 1**

**SAN DIEGO (AP)** — Manny Machado drove in the go-ahead run with a bases-loaded grounder for San Diego in the seventh inning. Chris Paddack struck out seven in five impressive innings in his major league debut. Four pitchers combined on a two-hitter for the Padres, who took three of four from the Giants.

Giants manager Bruce Bochy had Nick Vincent (0-1) walk Eric Hosmer to load the bases with one out in the seventh, bringing up Machado. Sam Dyson came on, and Machado grounded to shortstop Brandon Crawford. He got the force at second, but Machado beat Joe Panik's relay to first as Hunter Renfroe scored.

Adam Warren (1-0) pitched two hitless innings for his first win with San Diego. Kirby Yates pitched the ninth for his third save.

**DODGERS 8, DIAMONDBACKS 7**

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — A.J. Pollock hit a key two-run double during the Dodgers' eighth-inning rally.

Pollock tied it at 7 with a shot down the line against Yoshihisa Hirano (0-1) and advanced to third when right fielder Adam Jones misplayed the ball. Pollock, a former Diamondback who signed with Los Angeles this offseason, scored on Max Muncy's sacrifice fly.

Cody Bellinger hit his fourth homer for the Dodgers. Dylan Floro (1-0), the sixth Los Angeles pitcher, got the win and Kenley Jansen earned his first save.

Ketel Marte and Nick Ahmed each had two hits and two RBIs for the Diamondbacks. Luke Weaver homered in his first game with Arizona but allowed five runs and six hits over 4 1/3 innings. □

## Narvaez, Bruce homer as Mariners beat Red Sox 10-8

By The Associated Press

**SEATTLE (AP)** — Omar Narvaez hit a three-run homer off Rick Porcello in Seattle's seven-run third inning.

Dee Gordon had two hits and three RBIs as Seattle put together another impressive performance at the plate. The Mariners scored 34 times while taking three of four from the defending World Series champions in their first series at home.

Jay Bruce also connected for Seattle, and Mitch Haniger had two hits and two RBIs. The Mariners have 15 homers so far, hitting at least one in each of their six games.

J.D. Martinez homered and



Seattle Mariners' Dee Gordon, right safely steals second base as the ball pops out of the glove of Boston Red Sox second baseman Eduardo Nunez during the seventh inning of a baseball game, Sunday, March 31, 2019, in Seattle.

drove in four runs for Boston. Porcello (0-1) allowed nine runs, four earned, and six hits in 2 2/3 innings.

Mariners starter Wade LeBlanc (1-0) allowed six runs, four earned, and seven hits in 5 1/3 innings. □

Associated Press



# Warriors rout Hornets, clinch 5th straight Pacific title

**By The Associated Press**  
**OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)** — Stephen Curry scored 25 points with five 3-pointers and the Golden State Warriors beat Charlotte 137-90 on Sunday night to clinch their fifth straight Pacific Division title and hand the Hornets their worst loss of the season. Curry has made five or more 3s in a career-best eight straight games. He has 335 so far, his second-most in a season behind the NBA-record 402 he hit in 2015-16.

Klay Thompson scored Golden State's initial nine points and finished with 24 and six 3s. Curry and Thompson combined to shoot 11 for 17 from deep and 17 of 30 overall. Quinn Cook added 21 points off the bench.

Willy Hernangomez scored 22 points — 14 on free throws — for the Hornets. Charlotte leading scorer and All-Star Kemba Walker was held to nine points for his third game of the season not reaching double figures.

**MAVERICKS 106, THUNDER 103**

**OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)** — Trey Burke had 25 points and eight assists, Dwight Powell scored the winning basket on a dunk with 21 seconds left and Dallas, playing without star rookie Luka Doncic, stunned Oklahoma City.

Jalen Brunson had 18 points, Devin Harris added 15 and Dirk Nowitzki — playing perhaps his final game in Oklahoma City — grabbed a season-high 13 rebounds to go with seven points for the Mavericks. Russell Westbrook had 25 points, 11 rebounds and 11 assists for his 30th triple-double of the season and Paul George had 27 points and 11 rebounds for the Thunder, who had sealed a Western Conference play-off spot Saturday when the Sacramento Kings lost.

**HAWKS 136, BUCKS 135, OT ATLANTA (AP)** — Trae Young grabbed a deflected in-bounds pass and made a last-second jumper to lift Atlanta over short-handed Milwaukee.

Justin Anderson had 24 points and 12 rebounds for Atlanta, and John Collins finished with 23 points and 12 boards. Alex Len also scored 23 points. Young finished with 12 points and 16 assists. Sterling Brown scored 27 points for Milwaukee, including a go-ahead layup with 1.1 seconds remaining in overtime.

The Bucks played without Giannis Antetokounmpo and Khris Middleton. Antetokounmpo, one of the favorites for the NBA MVP award, was held out due to right ankle sprain. Middleton has a sore groin.

**LAKERS 130, PELICANS 102**  
**NEW ORLEANS (AP)** — Alex

Caruso scored a career-high 23 points in his 20th NBA game of the season, and Los Angeles beat New Orleans.

JaVale McGee had 23 points and 16 rebounds, and former Pelican Rajon Rondo added 24 points and 12 assists for Los Angeles in a game missing both teams' biggest stars: the Lakers' LeBron James and the Pelicans' Anthony Davis. Former Laker Julius Randle scored 17 points for New Orleans in 23 minutes before leaving to have an X-ray on his left index finger, which the team said came back negative.

Christian Wood, acquired recently by New Orleans after Milwaukee placed him on waivers, had 15 points and 11 rebounds. Kentavious Caldwell-Pope scored 19 and Reggie Bullock 18 for the Lakers, who have won four of five as they try to build toward next season.

**WIZARDS 95, NUGGETS 90**

**DENVER (AP)** — Tony Brown Jr. scored 24 points, Thomas Bryant and Jabari Parker each had 20, and Washington held Denver to just 28 points in the second half. Nikola Jokic had 23 points and 14 rebounds for Denver, which lost for the third time in five games and saw its lead in the Northwest Division over Portland cut to three games.

The loss came at price



Golden State Warriors guard Quinn Cook (4) drives to the basket against Charlotte Hornets forward Miles Bridges (0) during the second half of an NBA basketball game Sunday, March 31, 2019, in Oakland, Calif. The Warriors won 137-90.

Associated Press

for Denver. Starting point guard Jamal Murray left the game in the third quarter with a sprained left ankle and didn't return. Murray missed six games from Jan. 26-Feb. 4 with a left ankle sprain.

**KINGS 113, SPURS 106**

**SAN ANTONIO (AP)** — Buddy Hield scored 26 points and Sacramento snapped an 11-game skid in San Antonio.

Willie Cauley-Stein added 17 points and all of Sacramento's starters scored in double figures. Bogdan Bogdanovic added 15 points off the bench.

LaMarcus Aldridge had 27 points and 17 rebounds as San Antonio lost for the

fourth time in six games. DeMar DeRozan finished with 16 points and Rudy Gay had 18. The Spurs remained seventh in the Western Conference.

**CLIPPERS 113, GRIZZLIES 96**  
**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Danilo Gallinari had 27 points and 15 rebounds, and Los Angeles routed Memphis for its league-leading 13th win in 15 games.

The Clippers closed March with the NBA's best record at 13-2, tying the highest winning percentage in the month in team history set in 2014. Montrezl Harrell added 20 points, making 10 of 11 free throws, and Lou Williams had 17 points for the Clippers. □



In this Oct. 30, 2016, file photo, New England Patriots' Tom Brady (12), Rob Gronkowski (87) and James Develin (46) head back to the sideline after LeGarrette Blount scored a touchdown during the second half of the team's NFL football game against the Buffalo Bills in Orchard Park, N.Y.

Associated Press

## Tom Brady saves 1st tweet for April Fools' Day: I'm retiring

**FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP)** — Don't. Even. Joke.

New England Patriots fans who forgot that Monday is April Fools' Day might have been panicking when quarterback Tom Brady tweeted that he had decided to retire.

The six-time Super Bowl champion has joined Twitter and his first post said simply: "I'm retiring. In my spare time, I'll be tweet-

ing." An email from a Twitter spokeswoman confirmed the account, but it also referred to the fact that the tweet came on April Fools' Day.

About an hour later, Brady sent out a second tweet that said, "Was this a bad joke?" Brady is a 41-year-old, three-time NFL MVP who has to stop playing some time. But after leading New England to the

title last year, there's no indication that he's slowing down. And anyway, is this how he would announce it? Even tight end Rob Gronkowski, who actually retired last month, did so with a lengthy Instagram post.

Neither Brady's agent nor the Patriots immediately responded to emails from The Associated Press seeking comment. □



# Flames clinch Western Conference, Pacific Division

**The Associated Press**

**SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP)** — The Calgary Flames scored three times in less than two minutes late in the first period on their way to clinching the top spots in the Western Conference and the Pacific Division with a 5-3 victory over the San Jose Sharks on Sunday night.

Sean Monahan, Mark Jankowski, Dalton Prout, Mikael Backlund and Michael Frolik all scored for Calgary, which won for the eighth time in 11 games. The Flames will have home-ice advantage throughout the Western Conference playoffs.

It's the first time in 13 years that the Flames have won their division.

Timo Meier and Logan Couture each had a goal and an assist and Kevin Labanc also scored for the Sharks, who lost for the eighth time in nine games after winning six straight.

The Flames held San Jose to a season-low 15 shots.

**COYOTES 4, WILD 0**

**GLENDALE, Ariz. (AP)** — Darcy Kuemper made 36 saves for his fifth shutout of the season, Josh Archibald

scored two goals and the Arizona Coyotes kept their playoff push going.

It was Kuemper's second shutout in three games and the Coyotes moved within one point of Colorado for the second wild-card spot in the Western Conference with three games to play. The Avalanche have four games remaining. The Coyotes, who have not made the playoffs since 2012, have won 10 of their last 12 at home.

Alex Galchenyuk scored his 18th goal in the first period, and Archibald and Vinnie Hinostroza had empty-netters in the final two minutes for the Coyotes. Kuemper stopped a rising shot from the slot from Brad Hunt with three minutes remaining to keep the Wild scoreless. Kuemper shut out Chicago 1-0 on Tuesday and has three shutouts in March.

**PENGUINS 3, HURRICANES 1 PITTSBURGH (AP)** — Matt Murray stopped 37 shots and the Penguins inched closer to a playoff berth.

Matt Cullen, at 42 the NHL's oldest player, had a goal and an assist for Pittsburgh. Garrett Wilson collected



Calgary Flames goaltender Mike Smith (41) celebrates 5-3 win against the San Jose Sharks with teammates in the third period of an NHL hockey game in San Jose, Calif., Sunday, March 31, 2019. Associated Press

his first goal in nearly two months and Patric Hornqvist added his first even-strength score since early January. Murray did the rest while as the Penguins took a major step toward assuring itself of a spot in the postseason for the 13th consecutive year, the longest active streak in the league. Pittsburgh needs just two points over its final three games or a loss by Montreal to lock up a playoff spot.

Carolina's bid to reach the postseason for the first time in a decade took a hit. The Hurricanes have 93 points with a week to go in the regular season, just one point ahead of the ninth-place Canadiens.

Jacob Slavin's power-play goal with just under 8 min-

utes to go spoiled Murray's bid for a shutout.

**RANGERS 3, FLYERS 0**

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — Alexander Georgiev made 29 saves and Ryan Strome scored for the third consecutive game to lead New York.

Pavel Buchnevich, and Brady Skjei also scored for the Rangers and Brett Howden had two assists.

Strome scored late in the first period to give the Rangers a 2-0 lead when he went top shelf on Flyers goalie Carter Hart, who had only one defenseman helping him defend an odd-man rush. The goal was Strome's 17th of the season for the Rangers and 18th overall. He leads the NHL in goals for his new team after being traded this season. He

was acquired from Edmonton in November.

**BLUE JACKETS 4, SABRES 0**

**BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP)** — Sergei Bobrovsky stopped 38 shots, leading Columbus to its fifth straight victory.

With 94 points, the Blue Jackets jumped into seventh-place in the Eastern Conference standings, a point ahead of Carolina and two up on idle Montreal.

Bobrovsky took over the NHL lead with his ninth shutout — one more than Vegas' Marc-Andre Fleury — and third in five games.

Nick Foligno capped a three-goal first period and Pierre-Luc Dubois scored his 25th and added two assists. Oliver Bjorkstrand and Josh Anderson had a goal each for Columbus. □

## 23rd horse dies at Santa Anita after racing accident

**ARCADIA, Calif. (AP)** — A two-horse spill in the \$100,000 San Simeon Stakes at Santa Anita on Sunday led to the 23rd equine fatality at the Southern California track in just over three months.

Arms Runner injured his right front leg and fell in the Grade 3 race on turf, two days after Santa Anita reopened to racing after being closed for nearly a month.

That caused a trailing horse, La Sardane, to fall. The 5-year-old mare got back on her feet and walked back to her barn under her own power. She didn't sustain any injuries, according to a statement issued by the track.

Jockey Ruben Fuentes didn't ride the rest of the day. He was a late replacement for scheduled rider Joel Rosario.

Arms Runner was tended to by track veterinarians and vanned off. Track stewards said the horse trained by Peter Miller was euthanized. Arms Runner had three wins in 13 career starts and earnings of \$125,292, according to Equibase. Jockey Martin Pedroza, aboard Arms Runner, rode later in the day.

The accident occurred as the horses crossed the dirt surface during the transition from the hillside turf course to the main turf course.

The majority of the fatalities at the Arcadia track since Dec. 26 have occurred



This image provided by Benoit Photo shows Law Abidin Citizen and jockey Tiago Pereira, second from left, outlegging Mesut (Geovanni Franco), left, Air Vice Marshal (Martin Garcia), third from left, and Cistron (Rafael Bejarano), right, to win the Grade III, \$100,000 San Simeon Stakes, Sunday, March 31, 2019 at Santa Anita Park, Arcadia Calif.

Associated Press

on the main dirt surface. "While this incident happened during competition on a track that has been deemed by independent experts to be safe, we are working closely with the California Horse Racing Board to understand if there was anything additional that we could have done to prevent today's tragedy," according to a statement issued by the track.

"Today's incident speaks to the larger issue of catastrophic injuries in horse racing that The Stronach Group together with our industry stakeholders are working to solve throughout California and across the country." □



# New Davis Cup goes virtual to increase sponsorship revenue

By TALES AZZONI

AP Sports Writer

**MADRID (AP)** — The changes in the Davis Cup go beyond its revamped format. In addition to a new playing formula that will bring nations together for a weeklong tournament in a single venue, the Davis Cup is also implementing a new sponsorship strategy that will make tennis' top team competition look different to television viewers — all depending on where they are watching it.

The group behind the new Davis Cup — led by Barcelona defender Gerard Pique — is planning to use virtual replacement advertising during broadcasts at the inaugural "World Cup" of tennis in Madrid from Nov. 18-24, meaning sponsors' logos and banners will be superimposed digitally on the courts. A viewer in the United States will see something different than one in Asia or one in Europe, or those watching matches in person at Madrid's "Magic Box" tennis complex.

The strategy adds flexibility to sponsors and will allow organizers to sell different sponsorship packages worldwide, widening revenue possibilities. Instead of having one presenting sponsor for the whole tournament, organizers can



In this May 11, 2009 file photo, Russia's Elena Dementieva returns the ball to Lourdes Dominguez from Spain during Madrid Open Tennis Tournament at the Caja Magica (Magic Box) in Madrid, Spain.

sign deals with multiple companies.

"One of the things that happens in terms of sponsorship is that it is pretty difficult to find one of those global brands that has interest all over the world," Kosmos Tennis CEO Javier Alonso told The Associated Press. "With the modern technologies that are available right now on the market ... we are targeting to have three or four different feeds and in each feed we will have a different sponsor with virtual replacement

technology."

Even global companies could take advantage of the new model, as they can promote specific products in different markets. A car company could advertise one vehicle in Europe and another in Asia, and a beer company could promote one product in South America and another in Oceania.

The technology, called "DBR," or digital board replacement, is already being used successfully by the Spanish soccer league,

**Associated Press**

a sponsor and partner of the revamped Davis Cup. The league says it was one of the first competitions to implement the virtual sponsorship strategy some five years ago, and currently it distributes specific feeds to nine different regions.

"It's a format that is much more attractive to sponsors," said Oscar Mayo, the Spanish league's director for international development. "It's a model fully developed and we will share our know-how and provide support."

The technology allows for customized images to be superimposed anywhere on the field without being affected by camera movement or the position of players. It is used especially on sideline boards and the "3D" carpets near the goals in soccer matches. Similar technologies have been used in broadcasts of auto racing, golf tournaments and American football games, showing speeds, distances and first-down markers to add to the viewers' experience. Kosmos' goal is to have at least three separate regions with specific feeds in this inaugural season, expanding it to more territories and new sponsors in the coming years.

"At the end of the day, you can multiply by three or four the income that you are generating because the expense is not huge," Alonso said.

The plan to use the new technology was already in the long-term plans for Kosmos, the investment group founded by Pique, but it was fast-tracked after longtime Davis Cup sponsor BNP Paribas decided last month not to continue investing in the competition. The bank said it would end its 17-year title sponsorship "as the competition's format evolves." □

## Wayne Rooney helps DC United beat Orlando City

By The Associated Press

**ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)** — Wayne Rooney scored and assisted on a goal by Steven Birnbaum and D.C. United beat Orlando City 2-1 on Sunday night to snap an 11-game road winless streak.

Birnbaum headed home a cross from Rooney on a set piece, following an Orlando City hand ball, to open the scoring in the sixth minute.

Rooney put away a free kick in the 30th to give D.C. United (3-0-1) a 2-0 lead. He drew a foul, conceded by Dom Dwyer, in the

left corner a bent a side-netter past goalkeeper Brian Rowe, just inside the far post. The 33-year-old Rooney has four goals (tied for second in MLS) and three assists (tied for first) this season.

Dwyer scored on a header in the 63rd minute for Orlando City (1-2-2).

It was the first goal allowed by D.C. United this season and snapped goalkeeper Bill Hamid's regular-season shutout streak at 435 minutes.

**GALAXY 2, TIMBERS 1**

**CARSON, Calif. (AP)** — Zlatan Ibrahimovic scored

on a pair of penalty kicks to help Los Angeles beat Portland.

Ibrahimovic capped the scoring in the 65th minute in his return from an Achilles injury in the opener March 2. Midfielder Romain Alessandrini also came back from a hamstring injury sustained in the opener. The 37-year-old Ibrahimovic told reporters Friday, when asked about his ability to return from setbacks, that he needs, "20 minutes, not more."

Turns out, he wasn't far off. The Swedish forward clanged a remarkable shot off the post in the 16th min-



Los Angeles Galaxy forward Zlatan Ibrahimovic (9) scores on a penalty kick past Portland Timbers goalkeeper Jeff Attinella, in orange, during the first half of an MLS soccer match Sunday, March 31, 2019, in Carson, Calif.

**Associated Press**

ute before giving the Galaxy (3-1-0) a 1-0 lead in the 33rd, converting from the spot after drawing a foul on Claude Dielna in the area. Jeremy Ebobisse side-footed a cross by David Guz-

man into an empty net from the top of the 6-yard box to make it 1-all just before halftime.

Portland (0-3-1) has conceded 12 goals, while scoring just five. □



# No AI in humor: R2-D2 walks into a bar, doesn't get the joke

By **SETH BORENSTEIN**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — A robot walks into a bar. It goes CLANG.

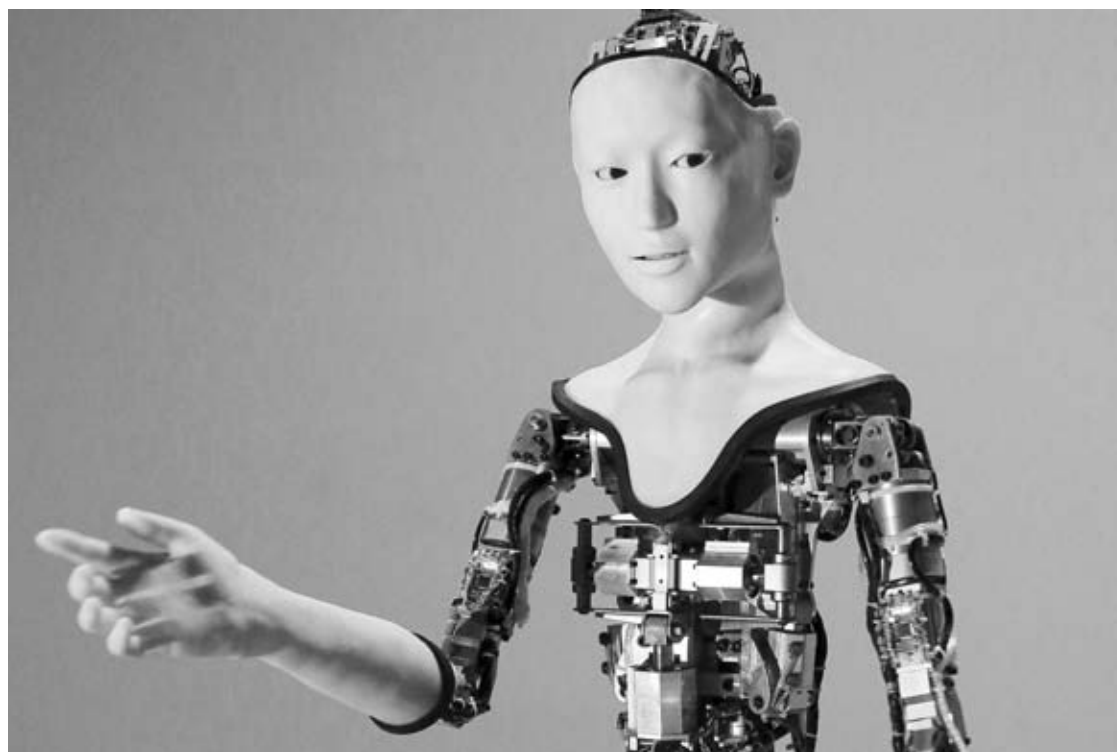
Alexa and Siri can tell jokes mined from a humor database, but they don't get them. Linguists and computer scientists say this is something to consider on April Fools' Day: Humor is what makes humans special. When people try to teach machines what's funny, the results are at times laughable but not in the way intended.

"Artificial intelligence will never get jokes like humans do," said Kiki Hempelmann, a computational linguist who studies humor at Texas A&M University-Commerce. "In themselves, they have no need for humor. They miss completely context."

And when it comes to humor, the people who study it — sometimes until all laughs are beaten out of it — say context is key. Even expert linguists have trouble explaining humor, said Tristan Miller, a computer scientist and linguist at Darmstadt University of Technology in Germany.

"Creative language — and humor in particular — is one of the hardest areas for computational intelligence to grasp," said Miller, who has analyzed more than 10,000 puns and called it torture. "It's because it relies so much on real-world knowledge — background knowledge and common-sense knowledge. A computer doesn't have these real-world experiences to draw on. It only knows what you tell it and what it draws from."

Allison Bishop, a Columbia University computer scientist who also performs



This Monday, Aug. 1, 2016 file photo shows the humanoid robot "Alter" on display at the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation in Tokyo.

stand-up comedy, said computer learning looks for patterns, but comedy thrives on things hovering close to a pattern and veering off just a bit to be funny and edgy.

Humor, she said, "has to skate the edge of being cohesive enough and surprising enough."

For comedians that's job security. Bishop said her parents were happy when her brother became a full-time comedy writer because it meant he wouldn't be replaced by a machine. "I like to believe that there is something very innately human about what makes something funny," Bishop said.

Oregon State University computer scientist Heather Knight created the comedy-performing robot Ginger to help her design machines that better interact with — and especially respond to — humans. She

said it turns out people most appreciate a robot's self-effacing humor.

Ginger, which uses human-written jokes and stories, does a bit about Shakespeare and machines, asking, "If you prick me in my battery pack, do I not bleed alkaline fluid?" in a reference to "The Merchant of Venice."

Humor and artificial intelligence is a growing field for academics.

Some computers can generate and understand puns — the most basic humor — without help from humans because puns are based on different meanings of similar-sounding words. But they fall down after that, said Purdue University computer scientist Julia Rayz.

"They get them — sort of," Rayz said. "Even if we look at puns, most of the puns require huge amounts of background."

Still, with puns there is some-

thing mathematical that computers can grasp, Bishop said. Rayz has spent 15 years trying to get computers to understand humor, and at times the results were, well, laughable. She recalled a time she gave the computer two different groups of sentences. Some were jokes. Some were not. The computer classified something as a joke that people thought wasn't a joke. When Rayz asked the computer why it thought it was a joke, its answer made sense technically. But the material still wasn't funny, nor memorable, she said. IBM has created artificial intelligence that beat opponents in chess and "Jeopardy!" Its latest attempt, Project Debater, is more difficult because it is based on language and aims to win structured arguments with people, said principal investigator Noam Slonim, a former comedy

writer for an Israeli version "Saturday Night Live."

Slonim put humor into the programming, figuring that an occasional one-liner could help in a debate. But it backfired during initial tests when the system made jokes at the wrong time or in the wrong way. Now, Project Debater is limited to one attempt at humor per debate, and that humor is often self-effacing. "We know that humor — at least good humor — relies on nuance and on timing," Slonim said. "And these are very hard to decipher by an automatic system."

That's why humor may be key in future Turing Tests — the ultimate test of machine intelligence, which is to see if an independent evaluator can tell if it is interacting with a person or computer, Slonim said.

There's still "a very significant gap between what machines can do and what humans are doing," both in language and humor, Slonim said.

There are good reasons to have artificial intelligence try to learn to get humor, Darmstadt University's Miller said. It makes machines more relatable, especially if you can get them to understand sarcasm. That also may aid with automated translations of different languages, he said.

Texas A&M's Hempelmann isn't so sure that's a good idea.

"Teaching AI systems humor is dangerous because they may find it where it isn't and they may use it where it's inappropriate," Hempelmann said. "Maybe bad AI will start killing people because it thinks it is funny." □

## In a first, electric cars outsell traditional ones in Norway

**COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP)** — In a symbolic first, electric cars outsold fossil fuel-powered ones in Norway last month.

Christina Bu, the Norwegian Electric Vehicle Association's general secretary, said Monday that 58.4 percent of new cars sold in the country in March were battery-powered, calling it "historically high."

Bu added that electric cars' share

of the market in the first three months of 2019 was 48.4 percent and is expected to hover around 50 percent for the whole year.

"Norway shows the whole world that the electric car can replace cars powered by gasoline and diesel and be an important contribution in the fight to reduce CO2 emissions," Bu said in a statement.

Norway, a wealthy European nation of 5.3 million, has provided

big incentives to boost electric car sales.

It waived hefty vehicle import duties and registration and sales taxes for buyers of electric cars to boost sales. Owners don't pay road tolls and use bus lanes in congested city centers.

The perks, however, are to be phased out in 2021.

Norway's Parliament has voted to require that all new cars sold in the

Scandinavian country be electric by 2025.

Countries around the world are trying to encourage more people to buy electric cars as part of the effort to reduce carbon emissions and fight climate change. China, the world's biggest auto market, has also provided big incentives as it tries to clean up the country's air pollution problem and gain a lead in new technologies. □



# Featured Homes for SALE

**\$265.000.00**

Bubali # 113c  
3Bedr w/ additional  
guest studio  
Semi detached home

**\$329.000.00**

Caya Ritmo # 35  
4 Bedr 2 Story Home  
Eagle Beach area

**\$575.000.00**

Oceania # 213  
2Bed/2Bath ocean front  
Condo.

**\$650.000.00**

Tamarijn \$ 59  
4Bedr home w/ sweeping  
island views, open air  
courtyard & lap pool

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info@arubahomeminders.com - email  
www.arubahomeminders.com - website

**\$320.000.00**

Jardines Del Mar # 12  
2Bed/2.5 Bath townhome  
w pool view in gated  
community

**\$449.000.00**

Opal # 223 Surfside Res.  
4Bed/3.5Bath w/ lock off  
apartment

**\$625.000.00**

Rooi Santo # 25m  
4Bed/4Bath home with  
pool, jacuzzi, gym &  
outdoor kitchen

**\$699.000.00**

Salina Cerca # 37b  
5Bed home with lush gardens  
& large private pool  
Close to the Marriott Resort

**\$775.000.00**

Oceania Residence # 513  
2Bed/2Bath Ocean front  
Penthouse condo w/ jacuzzi  
& private roof top patio



## Liz Weston: How to know when it's OK to spend

By LIZ WESTON  
Associated Press

Some people are much better savers than spenders. That can become a problem.

Certified financial planner DeDe Jones recalls clients, retired schoolteachers, who loved to travel but kept putting off the trip to China and Southeast Asia they'd always wanted to take.

"The husband started having health issues, and they missed the opportunity," says Jones, managing director of Innovative Financial in Lakewood, Colorado. "The widow is doing fine financially, but is feeling regret."

The ability to delay gratification is important for building wealth. But gratification delayed too long can leave us unhappy with the results.

Many of us experience this on a minor level when we put off using gift cards, drinking that special wine or booking a trip with our frequent flyer miles. We wait for the "perfect" time to indulge, and sometimes miss out entirely — the store goes out of business, the wine turns to vinegar, the miles expire.

**THE TROUBLE WITH 'SPECIAL'**  
Recent research published in the Journal of Marketing Behavior found that once we label something as "special," we can wait too long to enjoy it.

Researchers Suzanne Shu



In this Feb. 20, 2019, file photo shoppers ride the escalator at Saks Fifth Avenue's flagship midtown Manhattan store in New York.

of UCLA and Marissa A. Sharif of the University of Pennsylvania used a variety of experiments, including having participants imagine they had a free pass to a concert venue, to track people's willingness to indulge and their self-reported satisfaction with the results. Participants could see the list of 20 musical acts that could potentially play the venue over the 15-week season, but each band was announced only the week it would be appearing. People given a "VIP access" pass waited longer to use it, hoping for a more popular act, than the people given less exclusive passes. Those who delayed often wound up settling for an act they had

rated as mediocre to use the pass before it expired and expressed more regret about their choice than those who exercised the pass sooner.

Interestingly, some of the techniques that help people delay gratification can also help them avoid delaying it too long. One technique is called "pre-commitment." We make hard decisions in advance, such as agreeing to future automatic increases in our 401(k) contributions or paying for a dozen personal training sessions at the gym. For those who have trouble spending, pre-commitment could mean buying the airline tickets for that special trip or setting a deadline for making a purchase.

Associated Press

Having a financial plan can also help. Knowing you're on track saving toward retirement and other goals can give you permission to enjoy your spending, says CFP Charlie Bolognino, president of Side-by-Side Financial Planning in Plymouth, Minnesota.

"In a sense, our spending then becomes something we're expected to do: 'I'm just following the plan!'" Bolognino says.

### PERMISSION TO START SPENDING

Switching from saving to spending can be hard for some people when they reach retirement age. These reluctant spenders won't be able to change overnight.

"It's a transition, and tran-

sitions often are rougher than anticipated and take longer than anticipated," says neuropsychologist Moira Somers in Winnipeg, Manitoba, author of "Advice That Sticks."

Plus, many retirees who have trouble spending are worried their savings won't last. Financial planners typically run computer-assisted simulations to show clients the probabilities that their portfolios will last through various markets at given levels of spending. Even then, some people have trouble turning on the tap.

"For some, it is so severe that we refer to them as financial anorexics," says CFP John Gugle, chief investment officer of Alpha Financial Advisors in Charlotte, North Carolina. "They literally are convinced that they will run out of money despite our efforts to show them that it is virtually impossible."

Others are able to start spending once they focus on what's most important to them, planners say.

### AN ANTIDOTE TO FEAR OF SPENDING

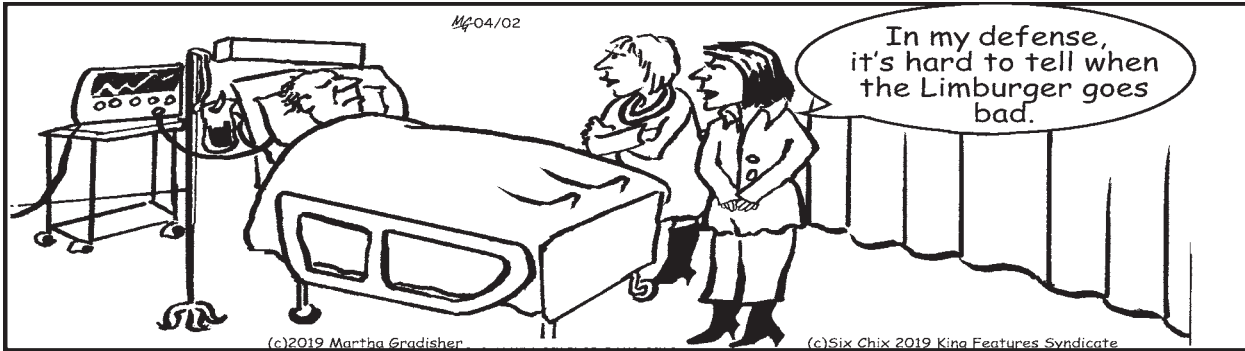
"One specific thing we suggest people do is to invest in memories, meaning do things like take your kids and grandkids on vacations that will be meaningful for you and they will remember all their lives," says CFP John M. Scherer, founder of Trinity Financial Planning in Middleton, Wisconsin. □



**Mutts**



**6 Chix**



**Blondie**



**Mother Goose & Grimm**



**Baby Blues**



**Zits**



**Conceptis Sudoku**

		2	4	8			7	6
	7							5
4				9				
9					7			
8		7				5		1
			6					4
				4				2
6							3	
3	2			5	9	8		

Difficulty Level ★★

4/02

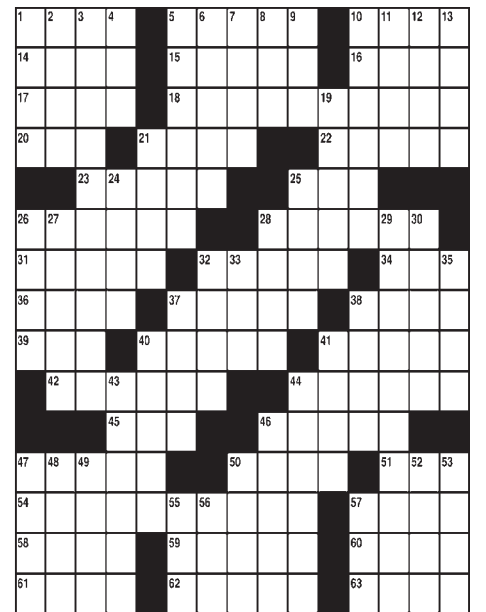
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

9	8	5	7	4	1	2	6	3
1	2	7	6	3	9	8	4	5
4	3	6	5	8	2	7	1	9
5	1	9	3	7	4	6	8	2
3	6	8	2	1	5	4	9	7
2	7	4	9	6	8	5	3	1
7	9	3	4	2	6	1	5	8
6	5	1	8	9	7	3	2	4
8	4	2	1	5	3	9	7	6

**ACROSS**

- 1 "Somewhere — the rainbow..."
- 5 Evening coffee, perhaps
- 10 Wild feline
- 14 Tree dropping
- 15 Disintegrate
- 16 As strong as —
- 17 Writing table
- 18 Missile or archer's arrow, e.g.
- 20 ...on; watch from hiding
- 21 Plantar fasciitis site
- 22 Allergic disorder
- 23 Noise
- 25 "Gloria in excelsis ..."!
- 26 Loathing
- 28 Fall, for one
- 31 Farmland units
- 32 Magnificent
- 34 Bertinelli, to friends
- 36 "Always a Woman"; Billy Joel song
- 37 Fleeting
- 38 Group of quail
- 39 TV's "Haw"
- 40 Nourishes
- 41 Less adorned
- 42 Like the sky on a clear night
- 44 Geometric figure
- 45 Musician's job
- 46 Walk through water
- 47 See eye to eye
- 50 Sheep's cries
- 51 Dirt bike or quad, for short
- 54 Damaging to another's reputation
- 57 Tried and ...
- 58 Dad's sister
- 59 Dangerous beasts
- 60 Eras
- 61 Brooklyn team
- 62 Aerosol
- 63 Home in the branches



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

4/2/19

**Monday's Puzzle Solved**

PLUG	STAG	SHOP
LONER	HALE	VANE
UNITE	INSOLENCE	
MGM	FAS	MILDER
PLUSH	EAT	
PARISH	STREAM	
I LOVE	STARS	BAH
COVE	ROOMY	CODE
SHE	RIFTS	ROMAN
ADRIFT	REMISS	
ELF	WAGON	
BRACER	AM I	ACD
AIREDALES	NOBLE	
ACES	FEAT	ALLEN
SEAS	FIRE	DEFT

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4/2/19

**DOWN**

- 1 Cutlass or Alero
- 2 Quayle or Pence, for short
- 3 On ...; well-off & worry-free
- 4 Brother of JFK
- 5 Rely
- 6 Went astray
- 7 "Groovy!"
- 8 Part of speech: abbr.
- 9 Fixed charge
- 10 Outdoor socializing areas
- 11 Caltech or USC
- 12 Burrowing critter
- 13 Wood choppers
- 19 Dishonest one
- 21 Colors
- 24 Raw minerals
- 25 Unable to hear
- 26 Chopped meat concoction
- 27 Fibromyalgia symptoms
- 28 Candy store chain
- 29 Engage in price gouging
- 30 Everybody's button
- 32 Author Zane
- 33 Get ... of; shed
- 35 Stringed instrument
- 37 Dangerous ice mass



# Classifieds

## Halley Time Travel

### Marriott Ocean Club

Platinum Weeks  
1 BR Ocean View \$12 K  
2 BR Ocean View \$17 K  
2 BR Ocean Front \$28 K

### Marriott Surf Club

Platinum  
2 BR Garden View \$15 K  
2 BR Ocean View \$16 K  
2 BR Ocean Side \$17 K  
2 BR Ocean Front \$27 K  
3 BR Ocean View \$27 K

### House For Sale

Catiri central located  
3 BR , 2 Bath, \$250 K  
Barba di Jucuman street \$335K  
4 BR , 3 bath , swimming pool  
Janana  
3 BR , 2 bath , 1 apartment  
\$330K

many more listings

### Ambassador Wing CDM

1 BR wk 12 2nd floor pool View  
\$7500

Private Tour to Xander's Birth  
Town The Sunrise City Aruba.  
and Baby Beach, Historic sites,  
Red district service to and from

### HalleyTimeTravelAruba.

& NaturesAdventuresColombia.  
Present: Medellin  
Nature's best Mountains,  
Rivers, Jungle,  
Guatape, CityShoppingTour  
and muchmore.  
Sp/Eng/Dutch/Papiamentto  
speaking Guides.

### Dutch Village

studio wk # 12 & 13  
ground floor deluxe  
35 weeks remain \$10,000 each

### Divi Links Golf

1 BR wk # 12 & 13  
Building B 10  
35 weeks remain on each  
\$ 9000 each

### Aruba Divi Phoenix

2 BR PH WK 11 & 12  
building 9 7th floor  
33 weeks remain \$25 K each  
1 BR WK 11  
building 7 3rd floor  
34 weeks remain \$15 K

### La Cabana Beach and Casino

Thursday check in  
1 BR and Studio WK # 11, 12, 13  
2nd floor garden view  
1 BR \$8000, studio \$7000

### Divi Links Golf

1 BR WK #11  
3rd floor B 3 \$9000  
26 weeks remain  
Studio wk # 11  
ground floor B 4 \$7500  
30 weeks remain

### Divi Village

Building C elevator  
2 BR wk 13 \$14 K  
3rd floor with 29/8 accelerated  
weeks remain  
1 BR WK # 14 \$7.5 K  
1st floor with 16 weeks remain

### La Cabana Beach and Casino

Sunday Check in  
1 BR wk 11 & 12 \$18 K both  
4th floor pool/ocean view  
Friday check in  
1 BR WK # 12  
4 th floor \$ 9000  
Garden/ocean view

### CPV

Building A  
1 BR wk 13 and 14  
\$6000 each

### La Cabana Beach & Casino

2X1 BR WK # 12  
3 rd floor Pool/Ocean View  
Sunday check in : \$9000 each

### For Sale By Owner:

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7&8/1408(\$18,000/Wk.);  
8/1113 (\$17,000);  
8/1409(\$17,000);  
9/1218(\$15,000);  
10/1207(\$15,000);  
11&12/1419(\$13,000/Wk.);  
13/1509(\$13,000);  
14/1308(\$13,000);and,  
15/1217(\$10,000).  
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# Science Says: Why scientists prize plant, animal genomes

By **MALCOLM RITTER**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Just about every week, it seems, scientists publish the unique DNA code of some creature or plant. Just in February, they published the genome for the strawberry, the paper mulberry tree, the great white shark and the Antarctic blackfin icefish.

They also announced that, thanks to a crowdfunding campaign, they'd produced the genome of Lil BUB, a female cat with a large internet following.

That followed a notable advance in January: an improved genome for the axolotl, a salamander renowned for regrowing severed limbs and other body parts.

Scientists have been uncovering genomes for quite a while. The first from an animal — a worm — came in 1998. Now, the technology has advanced far enough that scientists last year announced a project to produce the genomes for all life forms on Earth other than bacteria and single-celled organisms called archaea. They called it a "moonshot for biology."

But what's the point of uncovering new genomes?

For scientists, a detailed look under the hood of their favorite organism provides a foothold for learning the deepest secrets of their objects of attention, it leads to discoveries about how life works, and possibly how to prevent disease.

Take the mosquito. Late last year, researchers published a much-improved description of the DNA code for a particularly dangerous species of mosquito: *Aedes aegypti*, notorious for spreading Zika, dengue and yellow fever.



This Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2019 photo shows male mosquitos at the the Vosshall Laboratory at Rockefeller University in New York.

That achievement came from analyzing the DNA of 80 mosquito brothers. They were born in Leslie Vosshall's lab at Rockefeller University in New York, where thousands of mosquitoes swarmed in cages recently as Krithika Venkataraman was trying to make some more.

She stuck a tube that protruded from her mouth like a straw into a transparent cube filled with male mosquitoes. Then she repeatedly sucked about 30 males at a time into the tube. She counted them, and then blew them into another cube that housed females. Before long, the two sexes were mating.

You can think of a genome as an instruction book for building a living thing. Its language is a four-letter alphabet, which stand for the four compounds that

make up the innards of the DNA molecule. The order of those compounds along the molecule is the code; it creates "words" that we call genes.

The mosquito genome, for example, is about 1.28 billion letters long, a bit less than half the length of the human version. Knowing the DNA sequence lets scientists manipulate it with gene editing techniques, said Ben Matthews of the Vosshall lab, who was part of the international team that published the refined description of the mosquito genome last November. And once researchers started analyzing that version of the DNA code, discoveries began to pop out.

— They nearly doubled the known size of a family of genes that help mosquitoes sense information from their environment, such as the odor of humans. That was "totally, mind-blowingly, unexpected," Vosshall said. (Vosshall's salary is paid by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, which also supports The Associated Press Health & Science Department.)

Further study may reveal surprises about what mosquitoes pay attention to,

Vosshall said. And that could lead to better lures for mosquito traps, as well as better repellents. Maybe scientists can find something "10,000 times more disgusting" to a mosquito than the old standby, DEET, she said.

— They found new details about genes that let some mosquitoes resist certain insecticides. That's a possible step toward predicting what insecticides would be useless for fighting certain populations, as well as a potential lead for coming up with new chemical weapons against the insect.

— They found previously unknown targets for a major class of insecticides. That could open the door to designing new versions that target mosquitoes while sparing beneficial insects and posing less risk to people.

— They narrowed the search for genetic variants that prevent some *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes from infecting people with dengue, a severe flu-like illness that sickens millions every year. If those variants can be identified, scientists might use genetic engineering to reproduce them

in some mosquitoes, which could then be released to spread the variants through wild populations, Vosshall said. Those variants, or others, might also work for reducing threats of spreading Zika and yellow fever, Vosshall and Matthews said.

— A similar strategy might be used to make mosquito populations overproduce males. That would reduce mosquito bites in the short term — only females bite — and open the door to shrinking wild populations through genetic engineering. The new genome revealed details of the DNA stretch that makes mosquitoes develop as males, which Matthews called "step one" in pursuing the make-more-males strategy.

The salamander genome published in January built on a previous publication by European scientists last year. Although its genome is about 10 times the size of the human one, which makes the analysis harder, the axolotl's regenerating capabilities are an obvious lure.

Axolotls can replace "almost anything you can cut off of them, as long as you don't cut off their heads," says Jeremiah Smith of the University of Kentucky in Lexington, an author of the more recent genome paper.

But Smith points to another trick that might pay off sooner for human medicine: The salamander can also heal large wounds without scarring.

As for learning how to let people grow back a severed arm, he figures that's a long way off.

"That probably won't be useful for me," joked Smith, who's 42. "I'll be dead, so I won't need to grow my arm back."

And Lil BUB? She's the size of a kitten even though she's 8 years old, and has a number of other odd traits. Scientists looked for genetic mutations, and found altered genes that appear to be responsible for her extra toes and for a rare bone disease. □



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# Beyonce, 'Black Panther' win at 50th NAACP Image Awards

By J. LANDRUM Jr.  
Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Beyonce was named entertainer of the year at the 50th annual NAACP Image Awards that highlighted works by entertainers and writers of color.

After Beyonce accepted the award Saturday night, the superstar paid homage to the people who were nominated in the same category as her. She beat out Los Angeles Lakers superstar LeBron James, Regina King, Chadwick Boseman and director Ryan Coogler. "Regina King, I love you so much. You taught us patience, persistence and how to be masterful in your craft," she said. "Chadwick Boseman is teaching children to dream and to be seen as kings. LeBron James has taught us the strength of all forms, leading by example and providing education to our kids. Ryan Coogler tells our stories in a way that celebrates our history and proves we do have power."

Beyonce added: "I'm honored to be included among all of you, and to be a part of a vital and thriving community. Thank you to the NAACP."

Beyonce released a joint album last year with her husband, Jay-Z, called "Everything is Love." The prolific singer also paid tribute to historically black colleges and universities, as well as the dance troupes and step teams during her groundbreaking



The cast of "Black Panther," pose in the press room with the award for outstanding motion picture at the 50th annual NAACP Image Awards on Saturday, March 30, 2019, at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles.

two-hour Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival performance. She also performed "Lift Every Voice and Sing," which is known as the national black anthem, at the festival and donated \$100,000 to four black universities shortly after her performance.

The awards ceremony aired live on TV One at the Dolby Theatre, the same venue that hosts the Academy Awards.

Jay-Z received the President's Award for the rapper's public service achievements. He was recognized for his efforts through his Shawn Carter Foundation and serving as co-founder of the REFORM

Alliance.

The rapper executive produced the documentaries "Rest in Power: The Trayvon Martin Story" and "Time: The Kalief Browder Story," along with an animated documentary short called "The War on Drugs is an Epic Fail." That documentary highlighted the unfavorable treatment of black and Latino people when it comes to drug-related crimes.

Jay-Z quoted Abraham Lincoln after he accepted his award and dedicated his trophy to his 93-year-old grandmother Hattie White, saying: "She's so full of life." He also paid homage to the women in his life, in-

cluding his wife, Beyonce, who smiled while her husband made his speech.

"It's not the amount of years in your life. It's the amount of life in your years," he said. "That quote embodies my beautiful grandmother."

"Black Panther" was awarded best motion picture. The Marvel blockbuster hit beat out "BlackKlansman," "Crazy Rich Asians," "If Beale Street Could Talk" and "The Hate U Give."

The superhero film was a cultural phenomenon. It earned \$700 million domestically during its theatrical run.

"Black Panther" won in several other categories,

including best actor in a motion picture (Boseman), supporting actor in a motion picture (Michael B. Jordan) and directing in a motion picture (Coogler).

Jussie Smollett, who lost to "Grey's Anatomy" star Jessie Williams in the supporting actor in a drama series category, did not attend the awards.

It has been a tumultuous week for the "Empire" star after a felony case against him was dropped in Chicago. The handling of the case, which accused Smollett of falsely reporting to police that he was assaulted by two men in downtown Chicago on Jan. 29, has drawn widespread condemnation.

"They said no Jussie Smollett jokes," Rock said. "Yeah, I know, but what a waste of light skin. Do you know what I could do with that light skin? That curly hair, my career would be out of here. I would be running Hollywood. What the hell was he thinking? You are known as 'Jessie' for now on. You don't even get the 'u' anymore. That 'u' was for respect. You ain't getting no respect from me." In response to Rock's jokes, "black-ish" star Yara Shahidi made her stance in the Smollett controversy obvious.

"I stand with Jussie," Shahidi said before she handed the microphone to Marcus Scribner and ducked into her crowd of castmates including Anthony Anderson and Tracee Ellis Ross. □

## Jonathan McReynolds wins big at Stellar Gospel Music Awards

Associated Press

**LAS VEGAS (AP)** — Jonathan McReynolds was the top winner at the Stellar Gospel Music Awards, taking home eight trophies during a ceremony that included a posthumous tribute to the Queen of Soul, Aretha Franklin.

Thanks to his album "Make Room," Chicago gospel artist McReynolds was crowned artist of the year Friday night and his song "Not Lucky" was named song of the year. He also



In this Oct. 11, 2016 file photo, Jonathan McReynolds performs at the 47th Annual GMA Dove Awards at Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tenn.

Associated Press

took home honors for best contemporary male vocalist, contemporary CD and producer of the year.

Jekalyn Carr was named female vocalist of the year and The Walls Group won the award for duo/chorus group of the year.

The best new artist trophy went to Jabari Johnson.

The tribute to Franklin was performed by Kelly Price, Regina Belle and Erica Campbell. Members of Franklin's family were presented with the inaugu-

ral Aretha Franklin ICON Award.

Gospel legend Delores Washington Green of The Caravans was given the Legend Award.

And James Robinson Jr., Jackie Patillo and Phil Thornton were inducted into the Stellar Honors Hall of Fame.

Kirk Franklin returned to host the live taping of the awards show at Las Vegas' Orleans Arena. The Stellar Awards will be telecast on BET on April 21. □



# Movie theater owners, studios and stars convene at CinemaCon

By LINDSEY BAHR

Associated Press

**LAS VEGAS (AP)** — The movie industry — everyone from the Hollywood studios that produce the films to the companies that make the screens, speakers and seats in theaters — are descending on Las Vegas this week for CinemaCon. The future of film going will be in the spotlight as the annual trade show kicks off Monday at Caesar's Palace.

There will surely be much celebration and self-congratulation for the record 2018 box office year, which exceeded \$11.8 billion in ticket sales in North America, and recent successes like "Us" and "Captain Marvel." Yet this year's CinemaCon is coming at a time of great change in Hollywood. Streaming and how long movies play in theaters have been a conversation staple at Cin-



This April 26, 2018, file photo shows CinemaCon attendees walking through the lobby during CinemaCon 2018 in Las Vegas, the official convention of the National Association of Theatre Owners.

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emaCon in recent years, but Walt Disney Co.'s just-completed acquisition of 20th Century Fox will be the elephant in the room.

"People are really wondering what this consolidation is going to look like for the entire business," said Kevin Grayson, the president of domestic distribution for STX Films.

On a practical level, it means there won't be a separate presentation from Fox, which always staged an elaborate production, usually involving its former distribution chief in some kind of costume.

"We will absolutely miss the Fox presence, but we also need to support and embrace Disney for what they bring to our industry and what they're going to look to do to further bolster the distribution line of great product," said Mitch Neuhauser, the managing director of CinemaCon. "It's going to be a very bitter-sweet convention. But we will change with the times and move forward in a productive way."

In other words, the show must go on. Disney, which has been the market-leader for three years running, along with three of the other major studios, Universal, Warner Bros. and Paramount (Sony is sitting this year out), will come armed

with splashy new footage, trailers and some of their biggest stars to hype their slates for the summer movie season and beyond to an audience of theater owners, from the biggest chains to the smallest mom and pop shops.

STX will kick off the main studio presentations Tuesday morning after a few remarks on the state of the industry.

"It really gives us that opportunity to shine a light on STX and show that we are not here for the short term, we are here for the long term," said STX's Grayson.

STX specializes in mid-range and mid-budgeted commercial films like "The Upside" and "Second Act," and CinemaCon is an essential space to interact with not only the big players in exhibition but the people who own "twins and triples" in the middle of the country that are just as essential to their business.

"We're releasing 10 to 12 films this year and 12 to 15 next year," Grayson said. "So when the other studios are making the tentpoles, it allows us to fill that gap." Outside of the main theater, there will also be a whole world on the trade exhibition floor showing the latest and greatest in everything from theater technologies to concession

snacks. "There has been a non-stop momentum of new technology that is driving the industry," said Neuhauser.

Ray Nutt, the CEO of Fathom Events, which specializes in event cinema, from classic movies to the Metropolitan Opera and even sporting events, agrees.

"That box office record doesn't just happen because there's good content out there," Nutt said. "It happens because the amenities in the theaters are awesome these days, whether it's luxury seating or enhanced food and beverage. These are all things that make going to the movie theater special and one of a kind."

Julien Marcel, the CEO of Webmedia Movies Pro, a tech and data company for the theatrical industry, predicts that there will also be much discussion over the "second digital revolution" in movie going.

"All movie experiences start online and the key challenge for exhibitors is how to adapt with this second digital revolution," Marcel said. "The first digital revolution was when projection moved from analog to digital. Now we're at the heart of the second digital revolution where the marketing goes all digital and the ticket sales go all digital." □



## Robert Townsend doc on 'The 5 Heartbeats' earns NAACP nod

By JOHN CARUCCI

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Some of us understand the heartbreak of finding out our favorite band has broken up, but few can actually turn that dismay into a cult classic. That's what Robert Townsend did with "The Five Heartbeats."

According to the 62-year old filmmaker, it was hearing that David Ruffin was leaving The Temptations that inspired him to create a film about a fictional group that mirrored their rise and fall.

"When you're a kid and you're on welfare ... what lifted us a lot of times was music," said Townsend.

That eventually led to what he thought was his magnum opus — the 1991 movie "The Five Heartbeats." The film tanked in theaters, but ended up becoming an enduring staple thanks to repeated airings on TV and elsewhere. The film has over 300 million clips that have been shared on social media, said Townsend. "Everywhere I go, people love 'The Five Heartbeats.' I can't go to the gas station or airport (without it being mentioned)," he said. "And they're like, 'Can you do a sequel? Can you do a sequel?' And I was like, 'I don't think there's a sequel here.'"



This June 27, 2013 file photo shows Robert Townsend at the premiere of "Kevin Hart: Let Me Explain" in Los Angeles.

But he did see a possibility for a documentary about making it. That led him to produce "Making the Five Heartbeats," a documentary outlining the journey. Now he's nominated for an NAACP Image Award for outstanding film documentary. The 50th Image Awards are being presented in Los Angeles on Saturday.

Townsend said he was heartbroken when "The Five Heartbeats" flopped

at the box office.

"I worked on every syllable, every word, I talked to as many, you know, groups from the '60s and the team I put together I thought was amazing so at the end of the day I go, 'I think this is a really great movie.' ... Nobody came to see it."

It was his first film after "Hollywood Shuffle," his biting comedic commentary about the difficulties of making it in Hollywood as a black actor. He famous-

ly financed it on his credit cards and audiences loved it; the film was a critical and commercial success.

"The journey started with a young actor in Hollywood, frustrated, auditioning for slaves and pimps and drug dealers and gang-bangers. I got fed up and I, you know, decided because I was getting so discouraged and I was dying," he recalled.

"I said to Keenan Ivory Wayans, I said, 'Keenan, we

should make our own movies.' I had saved \$60,000 in the bank and I had done a movie with Denzel (Washington) called 'A Soldier's Story' with Norman Jewison directing.

We got nominated for four Academy Awards and I told my agent, I said, 'I want to do more movies like this. This is what I'm talking about — this.'

And my agent goes, 'Robert, they only do one black movie a year. You just did it. Be happy.'"

Besides "The Five Heartbeats," Townsend has had a long career in both film and television. Among his recent credits include directing an episode of the CW's "Black Lightning."

Townsend said he doesn't see his documentary on "The Five Heartbeats" as validation, but a capsule on a film that has become a part of black film history.

"What people don't know is that it is on every African-Americans top 10 list and it plays Thanksgiving and Christmas and it's like a tradition, a household tradition," he said.

"So, for me to revisit it, but with a fresh perspective on how I made it, I'm an artist, so I was just like oh there's a canvas to paint on. ... I think these are some interesting stories about my journey as a filmmaker." □

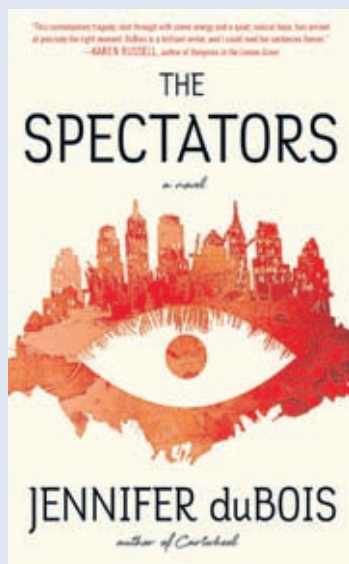
## Novel revisits culture wars, AIDS crisis

By KENDAL WEAVER

Associated Press

"The Spectators" (Random House), by Jennifer duBois. A deadly school shooting serves as a pivotal event in "The Spectators," a novel that revisits American cultural wars and crises in the last decades of the 20th century.

Mostly set in New York City, the novel looks at this period through the experiences of two wholly different characters: a gay man, Semi, who is a playwright grappling angrily and poignantly with the AIDS crisis; and an unhappy young woman, Cel, a publicist for a wildly successful and



This cover image released by Random House shows "The Spectators," a novel by Jennifer duBois.

Associated Press

hated television talk show featuring increasingly bizarre guests.

Told in alternating sections about Semi and Cel that move back and forth in time, the meandering narrative revolves around a central figure, Matthew Miller. He's a calm but crusading lawyer and politico who makes a run for mayor of New York City before switching careers and hosting "The Mattie M Show."

His show's freakish subjects, such as devil worship and incest, ignite on-set threats and violence that may or may not be real. But fake or not, the

show draws huge ratings and voluble scorn — even a claim that "Mattie M," through its riveting media mayhem, is responsible for the two teenage students who opened fire in a high school classroom.

As one of the shooters explains: "I didn't know it was real."

"The Spectators," the third novel by the well-regarded author Jennifer duBois, often thrums with vibrancy and echoes divisive current events as it covers a timeline from the late 1960s to the early 1990s. It also gains momentum when the plot takes a sudden, sinister twist — a threat

of blackmail, a shooter's potentially explosive letter, a secret taping. But it can turn tedious when the prose is overly embellished or a scene goes on too long.

Through Semi, the novel looks back at the gay sexual revolution and the anguish of AIDS in the 1980s. Semi says one of his plays was a "modestly elegiac retrospective of what had happened." In sections of "The Spectators," however, his words are a searingly felt remembrance.

For Cel, the distress in part is over the ugly faux media environment she wants to flee. □



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